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Britannica Curiosa:

O R,

A DESCRIPTION

OF THE

ISLAND of GREAT BRITAIN.

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BRITANNICA  
CHRONICA  
A DESCRIPTION



Island of Great Britain.

290 & 21

**Britannica Cúriofa :**  
O R,  
**A DESCRIPTION**  
OF THE MOST REMARKABLE  
**CURIOSITIES,**  
NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL,  
OF THE  
**I S L A N D**  
O F  
**GREAT BRITAIN,**

IN THE SEVERAL  
COUNTIES, CITIES, TOWNS, VILLAGES, &c.

T H E  
Principal SEATS of the NOBILITY and GENTRY,  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, PLACES of RESORT and  
ENTERTAINMENT, &c. &c.

IN SIX VOLUMES.

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THE SECOND EDITION.

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Illustrated with Fifty-nine COPPER PLATES.

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Printed for FIELDING and WALKER, No. 20,  
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M DCC LXXVII.

A DESCRIPTION

OF THE MOST REMARKABLE

NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL

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I S E A N D

250

ON THE SEVEN

COUNTIES, CITIES, TOWNS, VILLAGES, &c.

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Principal SEATS of the Ministry and Country.

Public Buildings, in front of

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THE SECOND EDITION

Printed with Lithographic Plates

V.O.P. AT

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Printed for F. & J. W. Smith, No. 20.

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KINCARDINSHIRE

CURIOSITIES,  
NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL,  
OF THE  
ISLAND  
OF  
GREAT BRITAIN.

KINCARDINSHIRE,

OR  
MEARNS.

THE latter name is also written *Mernis*, and is derived from *Mearns*, a gentleman of valour, to whom it was given by Kenneth II. It had the former name from *Kincardin*, which was formerly the shire town, an advantage that now belongs by statute to *Stone-bive*.

It is bounded on the east by the German Ocean; on the south with the water of North Esk; on the



west with the Gransbain-hills, or rather Angus, on the west and south; and on the north with the river Dee and Aberdeenshire. It is about twenty-seven miles in length, and twenty in breadth, and has an area of three hundred and eight square miles.

The soil is rich, and the country pretty plain and level. It is fruitful in corn and pasturage, and the Earl Marshal, before he forfeited it in 1716, for its rebellion, was its hereditary sheriff. Upon the sea coast there are several convenient creeks and harbours. There are also a great number of fir-trees in this county, which are increasing every year, by the plantation which the gentry raise at and about their seats.

*Kicardin*, as has been said, was formerly the shire town, which by statute now belongs to Stonehive, a small sea-port town, lying quite in an hollow, on the river Dale, but it has an harbour, with a stone pier raised on the north side, by one of the late Earl-Marshals, who had a salmon-fishing here.

*Cowy*, where the water of that name falls into the sea, had formerly a castle, built, as is said, by Malcolm Kenrofs, who made the town a free burgh.

*Dunnotre*, or *Dunoter*, is the most memorable place in the shire, where once stood a strong castle, fortified with walls and towers at certain distances, upon an high inaccessible rock, washed by the sea on three sides, and joined to the land only by a narrow isthmus. Towards the entrance of the gate is a huge rock, near forty ells high, which seems every moment ready to tumble. It had once a church, which was demolished in the civil wars, in the rebellion of 1715. This castle was for a long time the seat of the Keiths, the late hereditary Earl Marshals of Scotland, so created for their gallantry against the Danes, ever since the reign of Malcolm



Malcolm II. which began in 1019. The castle and estate were forfeited by the last Earl, for his joining with the Earl of Mar in the late rebellion. His lordship making his escape, went into the service of Spain. His brother going into the service of Russia, made such a figure therein, that he was deemed one of the best generals in Europe; and entering into the King of Prussia's service, was preferred to the first military honour, that of Velt Marechal, and fell in it, to the inexpressible regret and loss of his royal master. In a porch there is to be seen a stone, with the inscription of a company belonging to the XXth Roman Legion, called Victrix. It appears from a stone which was taken out of the Roman wall between Forth and Clyde, that the quarters of their horse extended three miles along the wall.

St. Padie's Church, within the Close, is mentioned for being the burial place of St. Palladius; and not far from this place is a Dropping Cave, where the water petrifies.

*Fourdon*, or *Mearns*, is the seat of a Presbytery, and was famous in the times of Popery, for the relicks supposed to have been here deposited of St. Palladius, (the first Bishop in Scotland) who was sent over in the year 431, by Pope Celestine, to preach the gospel to the Scots, and confute the Pelogians.

It is also noted for being the surname of John Fourdon, the Scots Historian, author of the book called *The Scots Chronicon*, to which all succeeding historians of this nation have been much obliged.

*Inverbervy* on the coast, was made a royal burgh by King Alexander III.

*Paldykirk*, takes its name from the above mentioned Scots, and is noted for its annual three days fair.

[ 6 ]

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The Stewartry of KIRKEUD-  
BRIGHT, or KILCUM-  
BRIGHT, of LOWER  
GALLOWAY.

**T**HIS and the Stewartry of Orkney and Zetland, the only two of that appellation in Scotland, differ from the shire in no other respect than the title of their chief officer, who in the one is called the Sheriff, in the other Stewart.

It is one of the two districts, or divisions of Galloway, the westernmost called Upper Galloway, being the shire of Wigtoun, and this stewartry, which is towards the east, being called Lower Galloway: they are called Galloway, from the Gauls, the ancestors of the ancient inhabitants.

It begins at the middle of the bridge of Dumfries, lies between the water of Cree on the west, and Nithsdale on the east, is bounded by part of Kyle on the north, and has the Irish sea on the south. The late Earl of Nithsdale, chief of the family of Maxwell, was its hereditary steward, before he forfeited it by taking arms for the Pretender. Its length is said to be forty-three miles, its breadth thirty-two, and its area seven hundred and forty square miles.

There

There is such plenty of pasture, that vast droves of small cattle, and flocks of sheep, are grazed here, which they send in great numbers to England. The country seems, in short, one continued heath, except here and there a grove of trees, near which there is commonly the house of some laird, or rather an old tower of stone, strongly built, to prevent surprize from the incursions which were so frequent between the two nations, before the reign of King James I. of England. There are lairds here from fifteen to five hundred pounds a year; a Galloway laird of thirty or forty pounds a year being very common, and they are all gentlemen, as in Wales. A lairdship is a tract of land, with a mansion-house upon it, the seat of the laird, and the surname by which he is distinguished.

*Kirkeudbright*, from whence the shire takes its name, is extremely convenient for carrying on a very advantageous commerce, being situate on a bay of the same name in the Irish Sea, at the mouth of the river Dee. The situation of the town is a perfect amphitheatre, like Zent on the confines of Italy, and, like that town, not surrounded with high mountains, but a rocky, stony crust, which in the country is called Craggs, for they make a distinction here between mountains, hills and crags. The mountains are very high, rocky and covered with heath. The hills are high, but not rocky, and covered with grass, which makes the finest pasture for sheep and small black cattle. The crags are hard stony rocks, not high, and very thinly covered with grass.

The town has a very good harbour, but very little or no trade carried on here. They might indeed make a considerable profit from their salmon fishery, if they would apply themselves to it; but the inhabitants are a sober, grave, and religious sort of people, who have no notion of acquiring wealth  
by

by trade, but live content with *what things they have*. The river Dee, which enters the sea here, comes out of the mountains near Carrick, and is full of turnings and meanders, that, though it is not above seventy miles in a line, it runs near two hundred miles in its course.

The Burgh of Kirkeudbright was erected into a Barony by King Charles I. for Mr. Maclellan, a gentleman of his bed-chamber, but his estate was so exhausted in his master's service, by the civil wars, that at the restoration none of the family would take the title, and it lay dormant till the parliament of 1722, when there was such a struggle about the choice of the sixteen peers to represent the nobility of Scotland, that the lineal heir to the title, a poor man, who kept an alehouse in the neighbourhood, was persuaded to put in his claim, and accordingly voted upon the parliament rolls, as *The most Noble and Right Honourable — Maclellan, Lord Kirkeudbright*. There are the remains of an old castle in this town.

The Western Galloway, or the Shire of Wigton, runs out with a peninsula so far into the sea, that, from the utmost shores, you see the coast of Ireland as plain as you see Calais from Dover.

*Port Patrick*, which is the ordinary place for the ferry or passage to Belfast, and other Ports in Ireland, has a tolerable good harbour, and a safe road; but there is very little use for it at present; the packet-boat and a few fishing vessels, are said to be the sum of its navigation.

Upon the hill near the town, Ireland may be plainly seen to the south-west; the coast of Cumberland, and the Isle of Man to the south-east, and the Isle of Ila, and the Mull of Kintyre, to the north-west.

*Stranraer*, situate on the north side of the isthmus, which is formed by two arms of the sea;



sea; one on the north side, called Loch Rian; and the other on the south, commonly called the Bay of Glenluce. Upon the former of these bays, (for such they both are) stands this town; it is a royal burgh, which has a most convenient position, in respect to the great body of water it commands, and to the country lying round on every side; so that from the latter it derives a reasonable share of domestic trade; and some foreign commerce, as also a small intercourse with our North American Colonies from the former. Port Patrick, which stands at a little distance to the west; immediately on the sea, is a member of this, with eight creeks belonging to it: and exclusive of these, there are two, which immediately depend on Stranrawer, with a custom-house, and a proper establishment, and some officers also for the receipt of the revenue arising from salt. The peninsula, on which are Port Patrick and all its creeks, may be from its Northern Horn, which is called Fairland Point, to the Mull of Galloway, in its southern extremity, about thirty English miles in length, and from three to six in breadth, containing, in the whole, ninety square miles, at least. In the old language of the natives, it was called the *Rinnes of Galloway*; and though no way extraordinary in respect to soil, being hilly rather than mountainous, yet it is not deficient in grain, abounds in grass, and consequently in sheep and black cattle. But if any manufactures were introduced here, as there is room for many, and raw materials for several, the excellence of its situation, (which is alike favourable for fishing, coasting, and foreign commerce) would quickly appear, and render this district, which is equal in size to Jersey and Guernsey, not inferior to them in cultivation, produce, or number of people; to accomplish which salutary change, there are no other instruments requisite than industry



and perseverance; for were these once perfect, experience and emulation would quickly effect the rest.

Six miles south of Wigton lies Withern, the antient *Candida Casa*, a royal burgh, but very poor, especially since the dissolution of the priory. In this town was the seat of the Bishop of Galloway, which was founded by St. Ninian, upwards of twelve hundred years ago.

But though the people of Galloway, especially on the sea-coast, are much to blame for not falling into commerce, navigation, &c. yet they are not quite idle; for they are great cultivators of the earth, and breeders of cattle, of which they send above fifty thousand head every year to England. Besides they have the best breed of strong, low, punch horses in Britain, if not in Europe, which are from thence called Galloways. These horses, which are very much bought up in England, are remarkable for being good natural pacers, strong easy goers, hardy, gentle, well-broken, and, above all, not apt to tire.

## LANERKSHIRE,

O R,

## CLUYDSDALE,

**I**S bounded on the south-east with Annandale; on the south with Dumfriesshire; on the south-west with that of Aire; on the north-west with that of Renfrew; on the north with that of Dunbarton; on the north-east with Sterlingshire; on the east with that of Linlithgow; and with that of Midlothian a little to the south-east. It is generally reckoned forty miles in length, about twenty-four where broadest, and sixteen where narrowest. It is called *Lanerk* from its shire town, and Cluydsdale from the Cluyd river. It is divided into two wards, the Upper Ward and Nether Ward; the one called the Shire of Lanerk, the other the Barony of Glasgow: the one hilly, healthy, and fit for pasturage, and the other plain and proper for corn. The Dukes of Hamilton are its hereditary Sheriffs.

The river Cluyd, which runs through it into its own Firth at Dunbarton, rises from Ewich-hill in the Upper Ward; and from the same tract rises the river Annan, which runs into the Irish Sea; and the Tweed, which falls into the German Ocean, near the mouth of the Firth.

Lanerk-

Lanerkshire is a pleasant and fruitful country, and, though mountainous in some places, and woody in others, is very well inhabited, especially near the Cluyd. It abounds with coal, peats, and lime-stones, and has some profitable mines of lead. *Camden* says, that in Crawford-moor, among the washes, the husbandmen, after violent rains, used to find a sort of shavings of gold: and if credit may be given to *Mr. Thomas Achinson*, who was Assay-master at the Mint at Edinburgh, in the reign of King James VI. there is natural gold to be had in several parts of the country, particularly Crawford-moor and Fryar-moor. Though he has plainly asserted in a Treatise on the Medals of Scotland, a M.S. in which he observes, that out of dry minerals, the like gold has not been seen or heard to be found in Christendom, as that of Scotland, which, he says, was tried, and reported to be worth seventy-six thousand pounds sterling per ton. By dry Minerals, he says he means the Jappare, the Calliminare, the Saxere, and the Salmere-stone. He adds, that commonly after great rains, it is found close joined to the Sappare-stone, in the same manner as lead ore and white spar sometimes grow together. *Cornelius*, a German Lapidary, who was superior of King James the Sixth's Golden-mines, discovered such at Crawford John in this county, and in thirty days sent from thence to the mint at Edinburgh, half a stone weight, or half a pound troy of natural gold, worth four hundred and fifty pounds sterling. There is abundance of lapis lazuli dug up also in this county, especially at Crawford-moor.

Nor does this tract want remains of Roman antiquity, for from Errick-stone at the one end, to Maul's-mire in the other, where it borders on Renfrew, the Roman Causey, or Military way called Watling

Watling-street, to this day, is visible in some parts for miles together.

Claydsdale gives title of Marquis, and Lanerk one of the titles of Earl to the Duke of Hamilton.

*Glasgow* is the emporium of the West of Scotland, being, for its commerce and riches, the second in this Northern part of Great Britain. It is a large, stately, and well built city, standing on a plain in a manner four-square; and the four principal streets are the fairest for breadth, and the finest built, that are to be seen in one city together. The houses are all of stone, and generally uniform in height, as well as in front. The lower stories, for the most part, stand on vast square Doric columns, with the arches which open into the shops, adding to the strength as well as the beauty, of the building. In a word, it is one of the cleanliest, most beautiful, and best built cities in Great-Britain.

It stands on the side of an hill, sloping to the river; only that part next the river, for near one-third of the city is flat, and by this means exposed to the water, upon any extraordinary flood: it is situated upon the east bank of the Clyde, which is not navigable to the town but by small vessels. Its port therefore is Newport Glasgow, which stands near the Clyde's mouth, and is an harbour for ships of the greatest burden. Here it is on a good wharf or quay the merchants load and unload. Their custom-house is also here, and their ships are here repaired, laid up, and fitted out, either here or at Greenock, where work is well done, and labour cheap.

The city is joined to the suburbs on the west bank of the Clyde, by an handsome bridge. And it is proper to observe, that in the year 1759, an act passed, intituled, "An act for improving the navigation



navigation of the river Clyde, to the city of Glasgow, and for building a bridge cross the said river, from the said city, to the village of Gorbells." The preamble sets forth, that the river Clyde, from Dumbuck to the Bridge of Glasgow, is so very shallow in several parts, that boats, lighters, barges, or other vessels, cannot pass to and from the city of Glasgow, except it be in the time of flood or high-water at spring-tides; and that if the same was cleansed and deepened, and the navigation thereof made more commodious, by a lock or dam over the same, it would be a great advantage to the trade and manufactures of the said city, and parts adjacent, and to the public in general.

The act takes notice, that the bridge of Glasgow, leading to the village called Gorbells, is so narrow, that there is not room for one carriage to pass another; and, by reason of its weakness and insufficiency, no heavy carriages are permitted to pass over it; power is therefore given to the magistrates and council of Glasgow, to erect a bridge of stone at or near to the place where the said bridge is erected, and to be thirty feet broad, and sufficient for wheel carriages of all kinds to pass and repass over the same, whereby the passage to the said city will be rendered much more safe and easy.

Where the four principal streets meet, the crossing makes a very spacious market-place, as may be easily imagined, since the streets are so large. In the center stands the cross. The houses in these streets are all built upon one model, with piazzas under them, faced with Ashler stone, and well fashioned. As you come down the hill from the North-gate to this place, the Tolbooth and Guild-hall make the north-west angle, or right-hand corner of the street, which is new rebuilt in a very magnificent manner. Here the town-council sit, and the magistrates



magistrates try such cases as come within their cognizance, and do all their other public business; so that, as will be easily conceived, the Tolbooth stands in the very center of the city. It is a noble structure of hewn stone, with a very lofty tower, and melodious hourly chimes. All these four principal streets are adorned with several public buildings.

But the chief ornament of the city is the College or University, a most magnificent and stately fabric, consisting of several courts. The front to the city is of hewn stone, and excellent architecture. Its precincts were lately enlarged by some acres of ground purchased for it by public money; and it is separated from the rest of the city by a very high wall.

It owes its erection to Archbishop Turnbull, and was legally founded by King James II. in 1453, by virtue of a bull from Pope Nicholas V. granting it all the privileges, liberties, honours, immunities, and exemptions, given by the apostolical see to the College of Bohemia, in Italy, for teaching universal learning. They are enabled by the munificence of a generous benefaction, to send exhibitioners, to Baliol College, in the University of Oxford. A rector, a dean of the faculty, a principal or warden, who was to teach theology, three philosophy-professors were established by the first foundation; and afterwards some clergymen taught the civil and canon law there.

In 1577, King James VI. established a principal, three professors of philosophy, four bursars, a steward to furnish their table, a servant for the principal, a janitor to look after the gate, and a cook.

The family of Hamilton gave some of the ground on which the college stands, with an adjacent field.

Kings

Kings, parliaments, the city of Glasgow, several of the archbishops, and many particular persons, have been benefactors to it.

In 1662, the Earl of Dundonald gave one thousand pounds sterling to it, for the maintenance of poor scholars. The great Buchanan, and the famous Cameron, had, among other eminent men, their education here.

The University makes use of the same arms as the City, which are a salmon with a gold ring in his mouth, the oak, with a red bird upon it, and a ball.

Several fine Roman stones, digged up in the latter end of 1740, near Kirkintilloch, with very curious inscriptions, have been removed to this University, where before was a good collection of pieces of antiquity, chiefly found near the same place.

Within these few years, very genteel houses have been built for the professors, and an handsome observatory erected.

In the higher part of the city stands the great church, formerly cathedral and metropolitan, dedicated to St. Mungo, who was Bishop here about the year 560. It is a magnificent and stately edifice, and surprises the beholders with its stupendous bigness, and the workmanship of the artizan. The several rows of pillars, and the exceeding high spire which rises from a square tower in the middle of the cross, shew a wonderful piece of architecture. It is now divided into several preaching places, one above the other. This noble structure was not built at the expence of the Scotch alone, but according to the custom of the times it was carried on by the assistance of good Christians all over Europe.

Near the church stands a ruinous castle, formerly the residence of the archbishop, who was legal Lord or Superior of the City, which stands on his ground.

ground, and from whom it received its first charter, and many privileges. It is encompassed with an exceeding high wall of hewn stone, and has a fine prospect into the city.

The Duke of Montrose has so great an interest here, and in the country round, that he is, in a civil sense, governor of this city, as he is legally of their University, and much beloved in these parts.

Glasgow is a city of business, and has the face of foreign as well as domestic trade; nay, we may say, it is the only city in Scotland, at this time, that apparently increases in both. The union has, indeed, answered its end to them more than to any other part of the kingdom, their trade being now formed by it; for as the union opened the door to the Scots into our American colonies, the Glasgow merchants presently embraced the opportunity; and though, at its first concerting, the rabble of this city made a formidable attempt to prevent it, yet afterwards they knew better, when they found the great increase of their trade by it; for they now send fifty sail of ships every year to Virginia, New England, and other English colonies in America.

The commerce of this city is greatly increased, by the late noble improvement in the navigation from the Firth to the Clyde, by that means joining the two seas; so that now they can send their tobacco and sugar by water to Alloway below Sterling, and can from thence send again to London, Holland, Hamburgh, and the Baltic.

The share they have in the herring fishery is very considerable; and they cure the herrings so well, and so much better than they are done in any other part of Great Britain, that a Glasgow herring is esteemed as good as a Dutch one.

There are several Banks in Glasgow, which serve greatly to facilitate business; and the city every day increases in magnitude, whole streets having been lately built, such as Virginia-street, Jamaica-street, &c. What is more surprizing, a Play-house has been built there within these few years; which would have been looked upon by their forefathers, as an infallible proof of the Devil's taking possession of the country.

We have not room to enlarge upon the home trade of this city, which is very considerable in many things. We shall therefore only mention some few particulars.

1. Here are two very handsome sugar-baking houses carried on by skilful persons, with large stocks, and to very great perfection. Here is likewise a large distillery, for distilling spirits from the melasses drawn from sugars, by which they enjoyed a vast advantage for a time, by a reserved article in the union, freeing them from English duties.

2. Here is a manufacture of plaiding, a stuff cross-striped with yellow, red, and other mixtures, for the plaids or veils worn by the women in Scotland.

3. Here is a manufacture of muslins, which they make so good and fine, that great quantities of them are sent into England and to the British plantations, where they sell at a good price. They are generally striped, and are very much used for aprons by the ladies, and sometimes in head-cloths by the meaner sort of Englishwomen.

4. Here is also a linen manufacture; but as that is in common with all parts of Scotland, which improve in it daily, we do not insist upon it as a peculiar here, though they make a great quantity of it, and send it to the plantations, as their principal merchandize. Nor are the Scots without a supply of goods for sorting their cargoes to the English



English colonies, without sending to England for them; and it is necessary to mention it here, because it has been objected by some, that the Scots could not send a portable cargo to America, without buying from England; which, coming through many hands, and by a long carriage, must consequently be so dear, that the English merchants could under-sell them.

It is very probable indeed, that some things cannot be had here so well as from England, so as to make out such a portable cargo as the Virginia merchants in London ship off, whose entries at the custom-house consist sometimes of two hundred particulars, as tin, turnery, millinery, upholstery, cutlery, and other Crooked-lane wares; in short, somewhat of every thing, either for wearing, or house-furniture, building houses or ships.

But though the Scots cannot do all this, we may reckon up what they can furnish, which they have not only in sufficient quantities, but some in greater perfection than in England.

1. They have woollen manufactures of their own, such as Sterling serges, Musselburgh stuffs, Aberdeen stockings, Edinburgh shalloons, Blankets, &c.

2. The trade with England being open, they have now all the Manchester, Sheffield, and Birmingham wares, and likewise the cloths, kerseys, half-thicks, duffels, stockings, and coarse manufactures of the North of England, brought as cheap or cheaper to them by horse-packs, as they are carried to London, it being a less distance.

3. They have linens of most kinds, especially diapers and table linen, damasks, and many other sorts not known in England, and cheaper than there, because made at their own doors.

4. What linens they want from Holland or Hamburgh, they import from thence as cheap as  
the



the English can do; and for muslins, their own are very acceptable, and cheaper than in England.

5. Gloves they make better and cheaper than in England, for they send great quantities thither.

6. Another article, which is very considerable here, is, servants, whom they can transport in greater plenty, and upon better terms, than the English, without the scandalous art of kidnapping, wheedling, betraying, and the like; for the poor people offer themselves fast enough, and think it their advantage, as it certainly is, to serve out their times soberly in the foreign plantations, and then become diligent planters for themselves; which is a much wiser course, than to turn thieves, and then be transported to save them from the gallows. This may be given as a reason, and we believe it is the only one, why so many more of the Scots servants, who go over to Virginia, settle and thrive there, than of the English; which is so certainly true, that if it holds on for many years more, Virginia may be rather called a Scots than an English plantation.

We might mention many other particulars; but these are sufficient to shew, that the Scots merchants are not at a loss, how to make up portable cargoes to send to the plantations; and that, if we can outdo them in some things, they are able to outdo us in others. If they are under any disadvantages in the trade we are speaking of, it is, that they may not, perhaps, have so easy a vent and consumption for the goods they bring back, as the English have at London, Bristol, or Liverpool; for which reason they have lately set up a wharf at Alloway in the Forth, whence they send their tobacco and sugars thither by land-carriage, and ship them off from thence for Holland, Hamburgh, or London,

as the market offers; and indeed they carry on a profitable trade with England in tobacco, from the difference of duty, &c.

Now, though the carrying their tobacco and sugars several miles over land may be some disadvantage, yet if, on the other hand, it be calculated, how much sooner the voyage is made from Glasgow to the Capes of Virginia, than from London, the difference will be made up in the freight, and in the expence of the ships, especially in the time of war, when the channel is thronged with privateers, and the ships wait to go in fleets for fear of enemies; for the Glasgow vessels are no sooner out of the Firth of Clyde, but they stretch away to the north-west, are out of the road of the privateers immediately, and are often at the Capes of Virginia before the London ships get clear of the channel. Nay, even in times of peace, they must always be allowed, one time with another, at least fourteen or twenty days difference in the voyage, both going out and coming in, which, taken together, is a month or six weeks in the whole voyage; and, considering wear and tear, victuals and wages, this makes a considerable difference in the trade.

One thing still we must take notice of, before we quit Glasgow. We have mentioned more than once the duties laid on ale and beer sold in divers towns of Scotland, for the benefit and public emolument of the said towns; but have here to take notice of the like duty laid for a different purpose, that is to say, for a punishment. The case was this:

When the malt duty was extended, for the first time to Scotland, it occasioned much murmuring; and particularly Daniel Campbell, Esq. who lived at Glasgow, and was member for that town, having given his vote for it in parliament, the populace rose,

rose, entered his house, and destroyed all his goods and furniture, and committed other acts of violence and outrage.

This the legislature resenting, as a defiance of lawful authority, an act passed in the 12th of King George I. 1723, to take from the town of Glasgow the benefits of an act before passed, for laying a duty of two pennies Scots on every pint of ale or beer brewed for sale in the said city, and its privileges; and vesting it for the remainder of the term, which was for thirteen years to come, in his Majesty, to be put under the commissioners of excise, in order to raise the sum of six thousand and eighty pounds, for satisfying the damages and losses sustained by Mr. Campbell in the said riot; but it provided, that, when the said sum was paid, the duty of two pennies Scots was to return, for the remainder of the term to the magistrates, for the purposes for which they were originally granted. This occasioned no good blood, it may be believed, between the city and Mr. Campbell; but yet, this was not the last time the city had the honour to be represented in parliament by the same gentleman, as it is joined with the burghs of Renfrew, Ruglen, and Dunbarton.—So placable, and so forgiving are the generous Scottish nation; or, at least, so little title has the city of Glasgow in particular to the national motto of Scotland. Nor did this good behaviour turn out to the disadvantage of the city; for, in the 9th of George II. a new act passed, continuing the former act for twenty-five years longer, and extending it to the villages of Gorbelles and Port Glasgow, both which places were in the jurisdiction of the city, and reaped all their advantages from its neighbourhood; the latter especially, at which the people of Glasgow had built, and constantly maintained, a very commodious harbour, and yet were neither of them in the former act.

Here

Here is a custom-house, which is a handsome building, and has a fair establishment for officers, and the jurisdiction of the whole Firth and river on both sides.

In the late rebellion the rebel army having obliged the town of Dumfries to pay them eleven hundred pounds, and to give hostages for nine hundred pounds more, they arrived soon after at Glasgow; where the young Pretender entered at the head of his forces. By this step he had all the inhabitants at his mercy; the regiment they had raised being at Edinburgh, and they entirely defenceless. But how sensible soever they might be of their danger, they did nothing contrary to their duty to deliver themselves; on the contrary, they shewed very visible signs of sorrow and sadness, and the Chevalier, though he often appeared in public, was scarce attended so much as by a mob.

The richness of the City of Glasgow, and the plenty of every thing to be found, made the rebels consider it as a magazine, and therefore they began to furnish themselves immediately with broad cloth, Tartan linen, shoes and stockings, to the amount of ten thousand pounds sterling; so that the Pretender by this means in a manner new clothed his army, which proved a great means of keeping them together; otherwise, in all probability, the greatest part of them would have dispersed. However, on the 3d of January, having gleaned what they could, they left the town, and marched to Kiloyth.

A society has been within these few years erected at Glasgow, under the name of "The Glasgow Charitable Marine Society;" the end of which is to provide for such seamen as shall become old or disabled in the service of the merchants of that city, and also to afford relief to their poor widows and children.

Eight



Eight miles south from Glasgow is

*Hamilton*, a town pleasant and well-built, the church of which is the burying-place of the noble family of Hamilton. But it is chiefly noted for its fine palace, the seat of the Duke of Hamilton, premier peer of Scotland, and nearly related to the royal family of the Stuarts. The house at present is large, though part of the design is unfinished. It has a fair front, with two wings, and two more were laid out in the ichnography of the building. The great court-yard before the house is spacious, and was to be balustraded with iron, between pillars of stone, as that of Dalkeith is; and behind it is a noble parterre, adorned with statues; and, lower, spacious bounds for a canal and fish-ponds, with large gardens on each side.

The front is very magnificent, all of white free-stone, with regular ornaments according to the rules of art. The wings are very deep the apartments are truly noble, and more fit for the court of a prince, than the house of a subject. The pictures, the furniture, and other decorations are exquisitely fine, and suitable to the dignity of the possessors.

The situation of the house has all the advantage imaginable; for it stands in a plain country, near enough to the banks of the Clyde to enjoy the prospect of its stream, and yet far enough from it to be out of the reach of its torrents and floods.

The offices of this palace join the town. Adjoining to the great park is a very romantic garden, called Barncleugh, which consists of seven hanging terras-walks, down to a river-side, with a wild wood full of birds on the opposite side of the river. In some of these walks are banqueting-houses, with walks and grottos, and all of them filled with large evergreens. In almost a line from the front of the house, at the distance of about two miles, rising

rising by a gentle ascent to a great height, is an hunting-seat of the Duke's, not finished, called Chattlereaux; it is a most romantic situation, and commands an enchanting prospect of the principal possessions of this noble family, with the old family house falling into ruins.

The great park is about seven miles in circumference, and noted for its fine oaks and firs; and for the neat house built by the late Duke, and called the Whim. The small river Avon runs through it. It is walled round with stone, and well stocked with deer. The lesser park is rather a great inclosure than a park, though this, as well as the other, is extremely well planted with trees. The gardens are finely designed; but we cannot say they are so well finished and kept as those at Drumlanrig.

*Botbwell* lies on the other side near the Clyde; where was anciently a prebend enjoyed by a secular priest, founded by Archibald Lord Douglas; and there are the ruins of a castle supposed to have been built by Andrew Murray, nephew to King Robert Bruce, who had this estate, which came afterwards into the possession of that of Douglas. The late gallant Forfar had his seat here; he died of the many wounds he received from the barbarous rebels, after they had given him quarter at Dumblain. In the neighbouring church, there are some stately tombs belonging to the Douglas family. There is a bridge over the Clyde, noted in history for the defeat of a considerable number of Presbyterians, who had been forced to take arms by barbarous oppressions in the reign of Charles II. by whom the Duke of Monmouth was sent against them in 1679, with troops from England. It was a very advantageous pass, but the defendants having neither officers nor artillery, it was soon taken. This castle has often given the title of Earl, but it has  
D  
been

been generally unfortunate, so that no one now enjoys it.

*Lanerk* is a royal burgh, the head of the shire, and from which it takes its name. It gives title of Earl to the eldest son of the family of Hamilton. It has a remarkable bridge, which was built at a vast expence by the inhabitants, but the violent current of the water rendering the keeping it in repair too chargeable for the town to support, and making it require frequent reparations, an act of the Scottish parliament passed in 1703, empowering them to collect tolls for postage, in order to keep up the same. This act was in force for nineteen years, and there was so much reason for it, and the bridge was of so great use to the country, that though the duties expired in the year 1722, yet the rates were voluntarily paid for many years; till certain disputes arising with some selfish persons, who wanted to reap the fruits of other peoples labours for nothing, an act was passed in the 10th year of King George II. for enabling the magistrates to repair and maintain so useful a work. This act is to continue in force for thirty-one years, and is so reasonable, that perhaps it will be perpetuated, if required: for the rates are only six-pence sterling for every coach or chariot, drawn by four or more horses; two-pence for every cart or wheel-carriage; one penny for every sledge or horse loaded or unloaded; two-thirds of a penny for every ox, cow, or bull; one-sixth of a penny for every calf, hog, sheep, or lamb; and the same for every foot-passenger; who must be a worse beast than any we have mentioned, to grudge it for so great a convenience: whether it has or not, we are not positive.

A little below this town the river Douglas falls into the Clyde, and gives the name of Douglasdale to the lands near it. In a vale near this river stood

a very

a very old castle, which had been the paternal seat of the great family of Douglas for above a thousand years; but, by the frequent additions to the building, it was become such a wild irregular mass, that, at a distance, it seems rather like a town than a single fabric, though the apartments were very noble.

On December 11, 1758, this ancient castle was burnt down by an accidental fire, which began in a room where no body slept, and was got to so great a head before it was discovered, that it was altogether impossible to prevent its progress. The family was alarmed about three in the morning, at which time the fire was so violent, that they had little more than time to save their lives; so that most of the valuable furniture of the house, paintings, papers, &c. were destroyed.

*Ruylen, or Rutberglen*, is another town in this county, which gives title of Earl to a branch of the family of Hamilton. It is a royal burgh, has a weekly market, and is pleasantly situate on the west side of the river Clyde.

LINE



# LINLITHGOWSHIRE,

O R

## WEST LOTHIAN,

**D**ERIVES its name from its head Burgh. It is bounded on the north with the Forth; with part of Sterlingshire on the north-west; and is divided from Mid-Lothian on the south and west, by the Waters of Almond and Breich-water. It is about fourteen miles long and thirteen broad, and abounds with coal, lime-stone, and white salt, besides corn and pasturage; and in the reign of King James VI. a mine was discovered here, which yielded a great deal of filer. It is well furnished with fish from the sea and rivers, and is in general a pleasant country. The Earl of Hopton is proprietor of the Barony of Abercome, and is its hereditary sheriff; which office was formerly vested in the family of Boyle.

*Linlithgow*, or *Linlithquo*, vulgo, *Lithquo*, is the chief town of this shire, and so named from its being situate on the side of a lake. It is a large, well built town, with a stately town house, but most famous for the noble palace of the Kings of Scotland, which is the least decayed of all the rest, that of Holy-rood-house excepted: for  
King

King James VI. repaired, or rather rebuilt it; and his two sons, Prince Henry and Prince Charles (afterwards King of England) had apartment there, which a traveller may easily distinguish by the different coats of arms, especially over those called the Prince's Lodgings.

This palace stands on a rising ground, which runs into the lake, in form of an amphitheatre, and has a descent resembling terrace-walks. There are two towers at each corner of the court, with apartments, and a curious fountain in the middle, adorned with several fine statues, from whence the water rises to a good height. A noble park also belongs to it. This palace was indeed a truly magnificent building, but it is now in a deplorable situation, having sustained much damage from the soldiery, in the last rebellion. As there is no possibility of its being repaired, it is great pity such noble materials are not applied to some useful purposes.

The church of St. Michael makes a part of this building, and is a wing on the right hand of the first court, as the proper offices make the left. The inner court is very large and elegant for the taste of the times. In the middle of this is the large fountain we have mentioned, which still shews the remains of some good carving, and other ornaments.

Here King James V. restored the order of the Knights of St. Andrew, and erected a throne and stalls for them in St. Michael's-church, making it the Chapel of the Order. He was likewise the first who ordered the Thistle to be added to the badge of the Order; and changed the motto, *En defence*, to *Nemo me impune lacessit*, which is worn about it in the royal arms. This prince seems to have been very much honoured in the world; for he wore the badges of three orders besides his own, which was that of the Garter, conferred

ferred upon him by his uncle, the King of England; that of the Golden Fleece, by the Emperor, then King of Spain; that of St. Michael by the King of France.

In his time the green ribband was wore by the Knights Companions of this Order; but King James VII. changed it to the Blue, like that of the Knights of the Garter in England. After the union, Queen Anne, the Sovereign of both, to distinguish them, restored the green ribband, and intended to have called a Chapter of the Order, to bring it once more to its full lustre; but was prevented by death.

In this town, the Earl of Murray, Lord Regent, was murdered with a musquet bullet, shot by one Hamilton, in a manner the most deliberate that history furnishes an instance of: he had the good fortune to escape to France; and though undoubtedly an assassin on this occasion, was otherwise a man of honour; as appears from his challenging a gentleman who offered him a large sum to take off a person with whom he had a dispute. The Earl was a natural son of King James V. and, aspiring to the crown, joined with the reformers, having first got the revenues of the convents of St. Andrew's and Pittenween, whereof he was abbot, or prior, secured to him and his heirs. His ambition and intrigues were the chief cause of almost all the troubles of Queen Mary's reign.

At Linlithgow is a great linen manufacture, as there is at Glasgow; and the water of the lake here is esteemed so extraordinary for bleaching or whitening of linen cloth, that a vast deal of it is brought hither from other parts of the country for that purpose. This lake is situate on the north side of the town, and between it and the place are terrace walks, which are so beautiful, that a more delightful place can scarce be seen.

In

In the year 1722, an act passed for laying two pennies Scots on every Scots pint of ale or beer sold in Linlithgow and its liberties, in order to repair the public buildings, which were run to decay, such as the church and town-house, &c. to supply such parts of the town with fresh water as want it; to pave and amend the streets, and also the avenues within a mile round the town; for discharging the town debts and other necessary purposes. Great progress was made in these laudable undertakings by virtue of this act; but the end being not sufficiently attained, nor likely to be, at the expiration of the act, these duties were further continued for twenty-one years more, by an act which passed in the year 1733.

*Forfichen*, formerly the residence of the Knights of Malta, is two miles south-west from Linlithgow.

This town is famous for some ancient monuments near it; particularly one at a place named *Kipps*, which resembles an ancient chapel, or altar. It consists of large unpolished stones, so placed, that they seem to lean and support one another. The common people call it *Arthur's Oven*, and some call it *Julius's Hoff Court*. Near this altar or temple, are several great stones erected in a circle, and upon two adjacent hills, there are the remains of old camps, with great heaps of stones and antique graves, all supposed to be Roman works, because they are near the Roman wall, said to be built by Severus. *Ninius* says, that this round structure was erected by Carausius as a monument of a Roman victory: but *Buchanan* is of opinion, that it is a temple of Teuninus, because on the left side of the same river, there are two mounts raised on a plain, which were called *Dune Pacis*, or the Hills of Peace, because the Romans pronounced themselves an end of their war with the Scots



Scots and Picts, by building the wall cross the island. A neighbouring village was from thence called *Dunny-Pace*, which name it still retains. He describes the round structure thus: It is built of great square stones, without mortar, and is about the size of an ordinary dove-house; it is open above and still entire, only the stone which lay over the door is wanting, and he supposes it to have been carried away by order of Edward I. of England, when he removed or destroyed many of the ancient monuments of this county.

*Abercorn* stands near the Forth of Edinburgh, and had once a castle on a hill, formerly the seat of the Douglas's, as it is now of the Earl of Hopton, which is supposed to be the Kebercuring of Bede, in whose time here was a famous monastery. The Roman wall above mentioned, founded by Severus, began here.

*Borrowstowness*, or *Burrostonness*, a town situate on the coast, was erected into a regality by the late Duke of Hamilton, whose adjoining seat at Kineil, finely wooded, was the jointure house of the late Duchess Dowager, who resided so much at East Acton, near London. The town consists of one good long street, like Kircaldy in Fife. Before the union, no town in Scotland had so great a trade with Holland; but this kingdom being now supplied from England with the same commodities without paying any duty, it is much decayed in trade, though it has still a good export of coal and salt, and the greatest traffic both to Holland and France, except Leith. It is said, they have the most shipping, and the best seamen in the Firth, who are very good pilots for the coast of Norway and the Baltic, as well as Holland.

*Blackness*, has still the ruins of a once strong castle, often made use of as a prison of state by the crown, but is now entirely useless.

*Queen's-*

*Queen's Ferry*, is a royal burgh, at the point of St. Margaret's Bay, where the Queens of Scotland generally embarked, when they went to their palaces on the other side of the Forth, and is now made use of at all times of the tide as a passage from Lothian to Fife, to which it is about two miles over; and it is the surest way from all parts of the North to Edinburgh. There is a small rocky island called *Inchgarvie*, in the middle of the Firth, betwixt the two ferries, on which there was formerly a castle mounted with guns, which could reach both shores, to hinder enemies ships from passing up the country; but it is now demolished.

Having in the former part of our work given an account of the Picts Wall, in England; it will no doubt be expected, that we should give a farther account of the Roman Wall, in Scotland, which we have lately mentioned by the name of Severus's Wall, which it generally went by. As this shire is the last in the Lothians, and the wall begins in this shire, we shall therefore take notice of it in this part of our work.

The placing garrisons in this country, at convenient distances, by Julius Agricola, to keep out the Scots Highlanders, was probably the occasion of building this wall, which first began where the river Forth was narrow, and so was carried on along the neck of land, betwixt that and the Frith of Clyde, which was not above sixteen miles over, and afterwards farther east. *Camden* thinks it was built by Antoninus Pius, who being adopted by Adrian, assumed his name; but it is supposed to have been built at sundry times, by different persons, as the situation of the ground required, for repelling the enemy, who were the Picts, Irish, and other wild nations in the Highlands, and for covering the provincial Britons

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against

against their invasions. The wall was several times repaired, till the destruction of the Roman Empire put an end to it. The manner of this wall is best understood by Mr. *Pont*'s description, inserted in *Camden's* *Britannia*; from which we observe, that, 1. There appears a ditch of twelve feet wide before it, towards the enemies country. 2. That the wall is ten feet thick, though the height of it at first is not known. 3. That there was a wall of squared or cut stones, two feet broad, which he supposes was higher than the former, to keep the earth from falling into the ditch, and to cover the defendants. 4. Close at the foot of the wall there is a paved way, five feet broad. 5. There were watch towers, within call of one another, where centinels kept watch day and night. 6. A court of guard to lodge a sufficient number of soldiers, against all sudden alarms, and a void within for the soldiers lodgings. Besides there were along the wall, great and noble forts, strongly intrenched, though within the wall, able to receive a whole army. The forts that remained in Mr. *Pont*'s time, for he traced them all, were at Langton, a mile east from Falkirk, at Roninhea, Burn-head; at Wester Cowdon, above Helen's Chapel; at the Croy-hill; a very large one at the top of Ban-hill, which had great intrenchings; at Archindwry, at Kirkintillock, or Kaerpentillock; at East Calder; at Hibtown of Calder; at Balmudy, at Simustone; over Kilvil River; and at Carestown; at Attermynie; at Bal Castle over against Ban-hill; at Kae-lybe over against Cay-hill; at Rock-hill, over against the Wester-wood; at Bankyre, over against Castle Cairy; at Dumbass.

In the ruins of the fort at Bankyre, was found a large iron shovel, or some such like instrument, so heavy, that one man could hardly lift it. Several sepulchres were also discovered at the same fort, covered

vered with large rough stones ; and Dunchroe-chyr, near Mony-Abrach, were formerly large buildings. The length of the wall was thirty-six Scots miles ; for beginning between Queen's Ferry and Abercorn, it went along west by the Grange and Kinell, to Inereving ; so on to Falkirk, from whence it proceeded directly to the forest of Cumernald ; and next it ran to the great fort at the Ban-hill, where have been found several stones, some with figures engraven on them, and some with inscriptions. From thence it went to the Peel of Kirkintillo, the greatest fort of all, and so west to Dumbarton, with a great ditch upon the north side of the wall, all along. It had also many square fortifications in form of a Roman Camp.

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T H E

S H I R E of N A I R N,

**H**AS Murray Firth on the north ; Elgin on the east ; and Inverness on the west and south ; and comprehends the west part of Murray, which lies west of the river Findorne, betwixt that river and the river Nairn. Its greatest length is twenty miles, and the breadth fourteen. Its air is very wholesome, and the winter mild. The lower part of the country bears much corn, which is soon ripe,



ripe, but the high country is fitter for pasture. There are many great woods of firs and other trees in this county, especially in the south-west part of the shire, on the river of Nairn, which is therefore called the Strath or Valley of Nairn, and it is an hereditary Sherifdom in the Campbells of Lbm. It joins with the shire of Cromertic in sending one member alternately to Parliament. Near the south-east side of the county lies *Strath*, or the Valley of *Euin*, on both sides of Findom river. It has many lakes and mountains, yet abounds with little towns, villages, and rivulets, and belongs to the Lord Prazen, of Lovat, and his vassals. In the south part there is a lake called Moy, about a mile and an half long, and above one mile broad; with an island and a castle on it, belonging to the chief of the Mackintoshes.

*Nairn* is the chief town of the shire, and stands at the mouth of a river of that name, a royal burgh, now in decay. The honour of Lord was enjoyed by a descendant of the family of Athol, who married the heiress, but was outlawed for taking arms for the Pretender. It had formerly an harbour choaked up with sands, which cover the ruins of an ancient castle.

*Cadel*, or *Calder Castle*, on that river, from whence Macbeth drew his second title. It has been formerly a place of strength. The draw-bridge is still to be seen, but the moat is now dry. The town is very ancient; its walls are of great thickness; arched in the top with stone, and surrounded with battlements. The rest of the town is later, though far from modern.

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and as they are so much nearer to Scotland, there  
is more commerce and much more conversation  
~~between the islands and the main land~~  
who have good manly houses on the islands, where  
their estates are.

## The Stewartry of Orkney,

A N D

## Zetland or Schetland.

**T**HE Isles of Orkney, called by the Latins, *Orcades*, do, together with those of Schetland, make one Stewartry, and send one member to parliament. They are divided on the south by that part of the main land of Scotland, called Caithness, by Pentland, or Pictland Frith, which is twenty-four miles long, and from twelve to sixteen in breadth. They have the Caledonian sea on the west; the German on the east; and the sea that parts them on the north. They are reckoned about thirty in number, and contain an area of six hundred square miles; but they are not all inhabited; the rest, which are called *Holmes*, being used only as pasturages for sheep and goats. The longest day among them exceeds eighteen hours, by some minutes, and for the greatest part of summer, one can see to read at midnight without a candle. Their winters are not so subject to snow as to rain, which falls sometimes in violent spouts, and the wind is often very boisterous. As these islands are large, and have more towns and inhabitants than those of Schetland, the soil is better and more improveable; and

and as they are so much nearer to Scotland, there is more commerce and much more conversation; for here are several gentlemen, and of good families, who have good mansion-houses on the islands, where their estates lie.

The principal Islands of the Orcades are,

South Ronaldsha,	Main Land, or
Swinna,	The Chief Island,
Hoy,	Strapinstra,
Faira,	Copincha,
Burra,	Damsay,
Lambholm,	Inhalla,
Flotta,	Stronsa,
Cava,	Papa Stronsa,
Gramsey,	Janda,
North Ranaldsha,	Eda,
Roufa,	Wyre,
Garfa,	Eglesha,
North Faira,	Westra,
Papa Westra.	

Mr. Camden observes, that most of the names end in *a*, *ey*, or *ba*, which terminations in the old Teutonic signified a place surrounded with water.

The main difference betwixt these islands, is in their situation, as their being less mountainous. The soil in some places is extremely dry and sandy, in others, wet and marshy. They produce corn in abundance, but the chief of it is oats for bread, and barley, or beer corn, for they have no wheat, rye, or pulse, except in gentlemen's gardens. They have, however, all sorts of wild fowl, partridges, moor-fowl, plover, duck, teal, widgeon, rabbits, &c. and they want neither fish nor venison; so that the inhabitants have every thing to make life comfortable, except better bread, and warmer weather.

There

There is not a finer sight in the world than to stand on the shore and to see the sea in calm weather, in the narrow sounds and passages between the islands; how the different tides run as from a sluice, as well one way as the other, and to see a boat fly upon them like an arrow out of a bow, it being as impossible to row against them, as to shoot London-bridge against a steep fall. In the Pentland Frith, behind the Island of Swinna, are two great whirlpools, called the Wells of Swinna, which are sure to swallow up any vessels that come within the draught; and the passage of the Frith is of itself very dangerous, because of the many strong tides, which are not less than twenty-four, and make the sea go very high upon the least contrary wind.


These whirlpools are most dangerous in a calm; for if there be any wind, and the boat under sail, they are passed without danger. If the mariners, who carry passengers between the main land and the isles, happen to be drove near them by the tides, they throw a barrel, oar, bundle of straw, or some other bulky thing into the whirlpools, which makes them smooth enough till the vessel is passed them; and what is thus cast in, is generally found floating a mile or two off. Mean time, the natives on both sides, who know the proper seasons, pass this Frith every day very safe, except when the weather is tempestuous.

The trade of the Orkneys differs from those of Schetland only, in not depending upon the resort of strangers, but on their own produce. They export annually a very great quantity of corn, black-cattle, swine and sheep, as also of butter, tallow, and white salt, together with selch-skins, otter-skins, lamb and rabbit-skins, &c. stuffs, and great quantities of very good down, feathers, writing quills and pens, hams and wool. Their corn in particular is sold as far as Edinburgh,  
from



from whence they bring what goods they want in exchange. But the chief of their commerce consists in their fishing for herrings, and white fish, and in their corn and cattle. Having not merchants to export their fish when taken, they fish for the Dutch, and the merchants of Inverness, &c. and though upon this account they sometimes go far from home, yet as they are an adventurous, hardy people, and good sailors, they make no difficulty of fishing in the darkest nights, though at a great distance from the island; and yet their boats are none of the best. Their white fishing trade lies chiefly on the west side of the islands, towards those which we call the Western Islands. There have been several attempts made by the merchants both of England and Scotland, to establish a fishery both in the Orkneys and the Western Islands; but the extraordinary expence of building warehouses, fishing vessels, &c. always rendered it fruitless; besides that, the taking of the herrings in those seas, does not turn out to so good an account as those taken on the east side of Scotland, the market being more remote. Indeed the Glasgow fishing-boats generally come up as far north as the Leuze, and fish for herrings, as do likewise the fishermen from Londonderry, Belfast, and other parts on that coast of Ireland, by whom the people of the islands are supplied with many necessaries, especially tobacco, wine, brandy, and other liquors, and some manufactures also for cloathing; but they meet with few or no returns, except fish, and some oil, which the islanders make by killing porpoises, seals, and such creatures.

The inhabitants formerly spoke a sort of Gothic, and have still a mixture of it, though the generality now speak English; according to the Scots idiom; only the common people speak the old Danish language among themselves, which they call  
*Norns,*



*Norns*, i. e. *Norrena*, or the *Norwegian* tongue, which they learnt from their first planters, the Norwegians, who peopled these islands about the time that they made their other settlements in Great Britain and Ireland, viz. in the ninth, tenth, and eleventh centuries. The common people live after the ancient frugal manner, so that they seldom die of the doctor, and live generally to a great age. Their ewes commonly bring forth two lambs at a time, and some three or four. Their horses are very small, but hardy and serviceable. Here are no poisonous animals, and if any be brought hither, they die immediately. There is scarce a tree or shrub, except heath, juniper, myrtle, and wild rose-trees, which is owing to the neglect of the inhabitants, and not to the nature of the soil, because large oak-trees are frequently dug up in their mosses, and they have some fruit-trees, with others, in their gardens. The people of rank are fond of their imported wine. A large cup used to be kept here (pretended to be that of St. Magnus their Apostle) which in the time of popery they used to fill with wine upon the arrival of every new Bishop; and if he took it off at a draught, they commended him highly, and looked upon it as an Omen of plenty. The people are generally civil, sagacious, circumpect, piously inclined, and given to hospitality. Their women are very handsome, and bring forth children at a very great age, of which there was a remarkable instance at the parish of Evie, where, in the year 1683, one Margery Bimhaster was brought to bed of a boy, when she was three-score and three.

Mr. Martin, who wrote a short account of these islands, as well as a large one of the Western Islands, says, that some of the ewes bring three and others four lambs at a time, and that they often die of a disease called *Sheep-Dead*; which is

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occasioned

occasioned by little animals about half an inch long, that breed in their liver. In winter and spring, when grass is scarce, their horses are fed with sea-ware. The fields abound every where with a variety of plants and roots, the latter of which are generally very large. The common people generally dress their leather with roots of tormentil instead of bark. Their ordinary fuel is peat and turf, of which there is such plenty as to furnish a salt-pan. A south-east and a north-west moon cause high water here. There is abundance of shell-fish here, as oysters, muscles, crabs, cockles, &c. of which latter they make much fine lime. The rocks on the shore afford plenty of *Alga Marina*, and other sea ware, and on the shores are found *Spermaceti*, and the *Os Cæpi*. There are many small whales round the coasts, with those amphibious animals, otters and seals. Besides geese, ducks, Solan-geese, swans, lyres, and eagles, here is the cleck-goose or barnacle, which is covered by a shell, wherein it is found in several isles sticking to trees by the bill. Mr. *Martin*, who saw many of them, says, he never perceived any of them upon the tree with life in them; but he was told by the natives, that they had observed them to move with the heat of the sun.

There are numbers of eagles and kites here which sometimes seize upon young children, and carry them a great way, so that if any one kills an eagle, he may by law claim a hen out of every house in the parish where it is killed. Hawks and falcons have their nests in several parts of the islands, and the King's falconer comes every year and takes the young, for which he has twenty pounds salary, and a hen or a dog out of every house in the country, except some houses that are privileged. Here are several mines of silver, tin, and lead, and perhaps of other metals; but none  
are

are improved. There is abundance of Marle. There are free-stone quarries in many places, with grey and red slate, and in some, marble and alabaster. When the winds are violent, the sea throws in pieces of trees, ambergrease, foreign fowls, &c. Though it cannot be expected there should be any large rivers in a country divided into so many small islands, yet there are some bourns and torrents full of trouts, and there are many locks; but they serve no other purpose than to supply their mills and cattle with water. Their corn land is every where inclosed; but their sheep, swine, and most of their cattle feed at large, without a herdsman to look after them.

Though these islands were visited by the Romans, yet *Camden* says, that in *Selinus's* time they were uninhabited, and overgrown with rushes.

*Tacitus* says, that *Julius Agricola*, the first who sailed round Britain, discovered the *Orcades* in that voyage; (unknown to the world till that time) and conquered them; and *Juvenal* writes thus of them, in the time of *Adrian*;

*Littora Juvernæ promovimus & modo captas  
Orcades, & minima contentos nocte Britannos.*

The *Orcades* have lately own'd our power,  
We've tam'd *Juvena*, and the British shore,  
That boasts the shortest night——

The generality of our historians affirm, that the *Picts* were the first planters and possessors of them, after the extinction of the Roman Empire in Britain, for they call *Orkney*, *Antiquum Pictorum Regnum*; and it appears also from some verses in *Claudian*, that the *Picts* were in his time the possessors of these islands. The country was likewise  
anciently



anciently governed by Kings, after the manner of  
 the Picts, and other nations; but by the injury of  
 time, and carelessness of writers, only two of them  
 are mentioned. One was Belus, King of Orkney,  
 whom Hollinshed calls Bladus, and Boethius,  
 Balus. The other King of Orkney was called  
 Ganus, who reigned in the time of Caractacus,  
 King of the Britons. These islands are supposed  
 to have continued under the government of their  
 own princes, till the utter subversion of it in the  
 year 839, when Kenneth II. King of the Scots,  
 subdued these isles, and added them to his other  
 dominions. But in the year 1099, the Norwegians  
 took this country, and held it an hundred and sixty-  
 four years, and then Magnus, King of Norway, sold  
 it all again to Alexander, King of Scotland, for four  
 thousand marks sterling, and one hundred marks  
 a year. Ever after this, Orkney continued annexed  
 to the crown of Scotland. That King indeed gave  
 the property of it to Spier, Earl of Caithness, whose  
 son Magnus Spier, Earl of Caithness, Orkney and  
 Schetland, was in great repute in the days of King  
 Robert Bruce; but he dying without heirs male,  
 his daughter Elizabeth succeeding him in the estate,  
 was married to Sir William Sinclair, whose son  
 and successor, Robert Sinclair, being fore-faulted  
 for non comparance to the parliament, the Earl-  
 dom of Orkney, and Lordship of Schetland, was  
 again annexed to the crown, and so continued till  
 Queen Mary confirmed it upon James Hepburn,  
 Earl of Bothwell, and in order to make him her  
 husband, created him Earl of Orkney, but he  
 dying as basely as he lived, after ten years impris-  
 onment in Denmark, the Lord Robert Stewart  
 (natural son of King James V.) was made Earl of  
 Orkney in August 1581, who was beheaded, and  
 his son hanged. Christian IV. King of Denmark,  
 having quitted all his pretensions to these islands,  
 in

in favour of King James VI. upon the marriage of that Prince to his sister, they have ever since acknowledged allegiance to the Scottish crown, and are immediately governed by the Steward of Orkney, or his deputy. In 1647, William Douglass, Earl of Moreton, procured a Mortgage of this country from King Charles I. But in 1669, both Orkney and Schetland were redeemed from his grandson, and re-annexed to the crown, except the Bishop's interest. By the Union Parliament, however, they were both dissolved from the crown, and Queen Anne granted the same to the then Earl of Moreton for five hundred pounds a year, and appointed him Steward and Justiciary within the bounds thereof.

Under the Stewart there are some Judges of his creation and appointment, called Bailiffs, of whom there is one in every island and parish, whose office is to oversee the manners of the inhabitants, to hold courts, and to determine in civil matters to the amount of ten pounds Scots, (sixteen shillings and eight-pence English) but if the matter be above, it is referred to the Steward, or his deputy. Under those Bailiffs are six or seven of the most honest and intelligent persons within the parish, called Law-wright-men, who, in their respective bounds have the over-sight of the people, in the manner of constables; and they inform the bailiff of all enormities that happen, which the bailiff punishes according to the importance or circumstances of the crime; and if it be above his limits, or the extent of his power, he sends the delinquent to the court of justice, which is held by the Stewart or his deputy. These Law-right-men have a privilege inherent in their office, by the custom of the country, which is not usual elsewhere; namely, that if there be any suspicion of theft, they take some of their neighbours with them in the dead of the night,

night, and make search for the theft, which is called *Kansacking*, from *Kansaka*, which in the old Danish is *to make inquiry*. They search every house they come to, and the person in whose custody the things stolen are found, is seized and brought to the court of justice.

Mr. *Martin* says, that the *Sinclairs* above mentioned were stiled Princes of Orkney, and that *Rothuel Hepbourn* was made Duke of Orkney. The last Earl was *George Hamilton*, (brother to the late Duke of Hamilton) so created by King *William III.* of glorious memory.

There are several gentlemen that have estates in these islands; but the King is proprietor, and one half of the whole belongs to the crown, besides the accession of the Bishop's rents some time ago, which is about nine thousand merks Scots per annum. There is a yearly Roup, as they call it, or sale by auction, of Orkney Rents, and the highest bidder is preferred to be the King's Steward for the time, and as such he is principal Judge of the country. There is a tenure of land in Orkney, differing from any other in the kingdom; and this they call *Udal Right*, from *Ulaus*, King of Norway, who, after taking possession of those islands, gave a right to the inhabitants, on condition of paying the third to himself; and this right the inhabitants had successively without any charter. All the lands of Orkney are *Udal-lands*, *King's-lands*, or *Fewed-lands*.

They differ in their measures from other parts of Scotland, for they do not use the peck or firlet, but weigh their corn in *pisimores* or *pundlers*. The least quantity they call a merk, which is eighteen ounces, and twenty-four make a leispound, or setten, which is the same with the Danes that a stone weight is with us.

The churches of both the Orkney and Zetland Isles, were formerly under the government of a Bishop,

Bishop, whose cathedral church was St. Magnus in Kirkwall. There are in all thirty-one churches, and about one hundred chapels in the country, making up in the whole about eighteen parishes. This diocese had several great dignities and privileges for a long time under Popery, which by the succession and change of many masters were much lessened. Some time after the reformation, Bishop Laud being made Bishop of Orkney, and the Earldom united to the crown (by the forfeiture and death of Patrick Stewart, Earl of Orkney) he, with the consent of his chapter, made a contract with King James VI. in the year 1614, by which they resigned all their church-lands to the crown; and the King gave back to the Bishop several lands in Orkney, as Hom, Orphir, &c. together with the Commissariat of Orkney to the Bishop and his successors; and then a competent number of persons was agreed on for a chapter. Several of the vulgar people in the lesser islands observe their saints days very superstitiously; and there is one day in harvest in which they do no work, from an old foolish notion they have by tradition, that if they work their ridges will bleed. Among other charms, which they pretend to practise with success, and even at a distance, is one for stopping excessive bleeding either in man or beast, be the cause internal or external; which they perform by sending the name of the patient to the charmer, who adds some more words to it; after the repetition of which the cure is said to be performed, though the charmer and the patient be several miles asunder.

The inhabitants are said to be well-proportioned, and seem to be more sanguine than they are in reality, for they feed so much, especially the poorer sort, upon salt-meat and fish, and sometimes without any bread, that they are subject to the scurvy; yet there are several instances of their longevity, particularly  
a man



a man at Keriton, who went to sea at one hundred and ten, and lived to be one hundred and twelve years old; a gentleman at Stronsa, who had a son that was one hundred and ten; and one Westra, who lived to be one hundred and forty. Not only the people of distinction are hospitable and obliging, but the vulgar are generally civil. They both dress like the Lowlanders, and some wear a seal skin for shoes, which they only tie about their feet with leather thongs or strings. They are generally able and stout sailors; the common people especially are very laborious, and undergo great hazards as well as fatigues in Fishing. To prevent the frequent incursions by the Norwegians, and those of the West Islands, each village was formerly obliged to fit out a large boat well mann'd; and all the inhabitants were forced to appear in arms upon an alarm from the beacons that were set on the top of the highest hills and rocks.

Of these some are called the South Islands, and others the North Islands, just as they stand to the south or north of the biggest island, called the Mainland. The most southern of all is that called South Ronalsa, or Ranalsa, which is six miles long, and five broad, fruitful in corn, pasture, and cattle. It is indented by several bays, and has two good harbours; one of them to the north is St. Margaret's Hope, a very safe harbour, with a good road to it, except a rock called Lippa, in the middle of the sound, betwixt this isle and Burra. The common ferry to Duncan's Bay in Caithness, is from Burray at the south end of this island. 'Tis a populous island, and has two kirks, one called St. Peter's, at the North-end of it; and at the south-end there is a ruinous church called Lady-kirk, for which the natives have so great a veneration, that they chuse rather to repair this old one, than to build a new one in a more convenient place; and at  
a cheaper

a cheaper rate. 'Tis separated by a narrow channel on the east from Flotta, and has the Isle of Waes on the west.

*Swinna*, or *Souna-Isle*, remarkable for the wells or whirlpools above-mentioned, in Pightland-Frith, on the west side of it, lies a little farther to the south. 'Tis about two miles long, and one mile broad, is fruitful in corn, inhabited by some husbandmen, and has a good quarry of slates, with excellent fishing on its coast. It belongs to the parish of the Kirk in Burra.

*Pentland*, or *Pightland-Skerries*, is a small Island, with some rocks, which are very dangerous to sailors, but abound with seals and fowl.

*Hoy*, is about twelve miles long, and six where broadest. The east part, which is called Waes, is fruitful, and well inhabited; but the rest mountainous, and but thinly peopled. On the west side a rock joins to the island by a very narrow slip, which is a strong natural Fort, and called Brabrugh. Here is another ferry out of this country from Snel-Setter to Ham in Caithness; and here are some good harbours, as Kirk-hope, North-hope, Ore-hope, &c. but not much frequented. Here are several freshwaters, lakes and rivers, that abound with trouts and other fish. From the tops of its mountains, about the summer solstice, the reflection of the sun is seen all night, as if it were covered with a cloud. There are such deep vallies here, as strike a terror to travellers, the rocks being so high, and meeting so near together at the top, that very little sky is to be seen. On the tops of these mountains are wild sheep. In a promontory here called Lyre-head, a bird builds called Lyre, which is about the size of a duck, very fat, and so delicious to eat, especially if seasoned with vinegar and pepper, that the natives climb for it even at the hazard of their lives. They

are let down by ropes two hundred fathom in search of the nests and young ones, which when they find, they put in bags, and sell for a very good price, because they are to be had no where else. Here are hares also as white as snow, which are found no where else in all the country. In one of the vallies there is a stone called the Dwarf-stone, thirty-six foot long, eighteen broad, nine thick, with a square hole made in it, about two foot high, for an entrance, and a stone of the same dimension close to it for a door. At one end there is the resemblance of a bed, with a pillow, artfully cut out of the stone, big enough for two men to lie on. There is a couch at the other end, and in the middle a hearth, with a hole cut out above it for a chimney. It lies on a heath a mile from any house, and is supposed to have been an hermitage. There is a church in the north part of the island, with a gentleman's seat, and farm houses. Near the Dwarf-stone, is that called the *Dwarf-hill*. Though it is an exceeding high mountain, the winds blow here sometimes with such force, that by this violence, and that of the waves together, large stones are thrown up to the tops of the mountains, next to the sea. The minister of Hoy has two kirks; one in Hoy, another in Guernsey, a pleasant isle about one mile long, to the north of it: and the minister of Waes has two kirks, one in Waes, and another in the little pleasant island of Flotta. Faira and Caur, two other islands east of Waes, are also a part of his charge.

Burra is a pleasant little island, fruitful in corn and pasturage, and affords excellent turf and rut for fewel. It is above five miles long, and two where broadest; has many sheep, black cattle, nimble horses and rabbits. Stewart of Mains built a noble sumptuous stone house here; and there is a chapel

chapel on this island, which belongs to the Parish of S. Roualfa.

*Flotta*, a little to the west of Hory, abounds moor fowl and fish of all sorts, is about five miles long, and three-quarters broad; most of it is encompassed with high rocks. It has a church and a gentleman's seat; but has little corn ground, and not many inhabitants.

*Pomona* is the largest of all the Orkney Islands, and for that reason called the *Main-Land*. It is twenty-four miles long, and from six to nine broad.

It has nine parish churches, several mines of good white and black lead; is in general fruitful, and has four remarkably good harbours at Kirkwall, Deir-Sound, or Duhaud, Grahun's-hall, and Cachston. The east part, called Duiness, is a peninsula joined to the other by a small neck. It is very pleasant, as well cultivated as the other part, as has a church and several gentlemens seats. It is supposed to have been formerly a forest for deer, and from thence to have derived its name. It has lakes and rivulets abounding with salmon and other fish, and divers bays and promontories: that at the north end, called the Mule, is very high, yet the water in a tempest beats so violently against it, that it rises higher than the cape. In this island are two temples, where the natives believe the sun and moon were worshiped. They are on the east and west sides of the lake of Steunio. They have a trench round them like Stonehenge. The largest is one hundred and ten paces diameter, and the least semi-circular. Through the middle of one of these stones runs a great hole, by which criminals and victims were tied.

*Kirkwall* is reckoned the only good town in Orkney. It is a royal burgh, which the Danes called *Cracoviaca*.



*Cracoviaca.* It consists of one narrow street; but the houses are tolerably well built, and covered with slate. The cathedral is stately, and called St. Magnus, who the natives say was their first apostle. It is built of hewn stone, excellently polished; its roof is supported by fourteen pillars on each side, and the steeple is erected on four large pillars in the middle, with fine bells in it. This pyramid being covered with wood, is said to have been burnt by lightning in 1670; afterwards, by the industry of the Bishop, and the liberality of others, it was repaired, and the largest of its bells, which had been damaged by the fall it had received at the burning of the steeple, was cast again in Holland. The three gates of this church are chequered with red and white polished stones, embossed and very elegantly flowered. There are so many turnings, that it is hard for a stranger to find his way out or in.

Here was formerly a strong castle belonging to the crown, which now is in ruins. Near it was the King's palace, two stories high, built by Robert Stewart, Earl of Orkney, about 1574, now quite decayed. Several rooms in it are very curiously painted with scripture stories; and above the arms within they placed this presumptuous prescription,

*Sic fuit, est, et erit.*

The above-mentioned Earl was prevented from finishing this noble palace by an untimely death. At the end of the town is a fort built by the English during Oliver Cromwell's administration, ditched about with a breast-work, and other fortifications, on which they have some cannon planted for the defence of the harbour.

The

The town is governed by a Provost, four Baliffs, and a Common-council, like the other towns in Scotland. There is a public grammar school here, and several others for reading and writing. They have a charter for two weekly markets, and an annual fair which holds three days. The harbour here is large and safe, in a bay on the north side of the island, without the danger of shoals of blind rocks, unless vessels come to it from the west by Ichallo and Guirra. It was famous in days of yore for abundance of antiquities, especially Danish and Popish buildings. Here are still several public structures. The seat of justice is still kept in it for all the rest of the island; and the Steward, Sheriff, and Commissary do each of them keep their courts here.

*Alballow*, at the north-west corner of Pomona, is a small island, noted for a good fishery.

East from the Mainland lies *Coppinsha*, a small island, but fruitful in corn and grass; has good fishing, and abounds with fowl. It is very conspicuous to seamen, as is the Holm to the north-east of it, called *The Horse of Coppinsha*.

North from the Mainland lies *Shapinsha*, five or six miles long, and three broad; it has a very safe harbour, and a parish church. It abounds with turf and moon-fowl.

To the south-east lies *Stronsa*, six miles long, and three broad, well known, because of its good harbours, to those who frequent this country and Shetland for fishing: it is very fruitful, and well inhabited; and has a rock belonging to it, called *Outkerrie*, remarkable for its good fishery.

A little north-east of lies a small pleasant isle called *Papa-Stronsa*, very fruitful and well inhabited. There is a Peninsula in the south east corner of it, called *Rawfin*, which furnishes the rest  
of

of the island with turf; and in the chinks of it were found, not many years ago, the remains of a Roman urn.

Farther north lies *Sanda*, about twelve miles long, and eight miles broad, well inhabited, and has two harbours; it abounds with cattle, hay, and fish; but the inhabitants are obliged to bring their fuel from Eda, which lies west of it. It is ten miles long, and in some places five miles broad. There is good salt made here; and it abounds with fish and fowl, but not with corn and grass.

Mention is made of a remarkable grave, in the chapel of Blet, in the isle of *Sanda*; it is said to be nineteen feet long, the stone that was laid on it being twelve feet in length, in which Mr. Martin says a piece of a man's back bone was found bigger than that of a horse; and the inhabitants have a tradition of a giant there, who was so tall, that he could reach his hand as high as the top of the chapel. The isle of *Sanda* runs high on the south side; but lies so low on the north, that seamen often run foul upon it unawares; and it is well they do so for the poor, who have no fuel but the wrecks of ships, and are forced to dress their victuals with straw, or the dung of cattle, &c.

*Ela* is also an isle to the south-east of *Sanda*, abounds with moor-fowl, and is full of moss and hills; unless it be about the skirts of it. It has a safe road, called *Calf Sound*, guarded by a large helm, called the *calf of Eda*, in which is a good salt-pan. There is a promontory near the harbour, where the hawks build, who are much valued.

Three miles west from *Kirkwall* lies *Damsey*, a small, but fruitful island, and abounds with fish.

To the north-west lies *Roufa*, eight miles long and six broad; it has many promontories and high hills,

hills; but on the coast is fruitful, and well inhabited; it abounds also with fowl, fish and rabbits.

There are several other islands in the neighbourhood, which are fruitful enough for their extent.

Eight miles north from Kirkwall lies *Eglisay*, three miles long and two broad; it has a safe road for ships, is very pleasant and fruitful, and has a parish-church.

Five miles north-east lies *North Fara*, three miles long: it is but thinly inhabited, yet affords the general commodities of the country.

*South Fara*, which lies near *Burra*, is much of the same extent and nature.

North of *Eglisay* lies *Westra*, eight miles long, in some places five, and in others three miles broad; it is well inhabited, abounds with corn, cattle, fish, and rabbits; has a strong castle, with a convenient harbour.

Two miles north-east lies *Pappa Westra*, three miles long, a mile and a half broad, is well inhabited, has a good harbour, and, together with the other *Westra*, makes up a parish. In this island stand, near a lake, now called *St. Tredwell's Loch*, two obelisks, in one of which is an hole used by the Heathens for tying criminals and victims; and, behind them, lying on the ground, a third stone, hollowed like a trough.

Here have been graves found in the sands; in one of which was a man, with a sword in one hand, and a Danish axe in the other; and several have been found with dogs, combs, and knives in their graves, which is supposed to have been the Danes way of burial, when they inhabited these islands.

*Fair Island* is almost in the middle between *Orkney* and *Schetland*, and is seen from both.

It



It rises in three very high promontories, faced with rock, and inaccessible, except on the north-east, where the land is lower, and forms a safe harbour. It is but thinly inhabited, because the people are often plundered by the mariners, who come this way to fish. Its hawks are reckoned the best that are to be found, and go as far as the Orkney Islands for moor hens and other prey. On the north-west side there is a vast rock, which rises like a tower, is covered with grass, and feeds many sheep.

It has the name of *Fair Island*, because it lies in the Fair Way, as the sailors call it: i. e. the middle of the Channel between the Orkneys and Schetland.

ISLES

## ISLES of ZETLAND,

O R

## SCHETLAND,

CONSIST of about forty six islands, with forty holmes, and thirty rocks, which are part of the Stewartry of Orkney, and are governed either by the Stewart or his deputy. They lie on the north of Scotland, in the midseas, betwixt the coast of Norway on the east, and the coast of the uninhabited Hudson's Bay Head-lands on the west; in the Latitude of 49, 50, to the Latitude of 60, 48; and betwixt Longitude 1, 50 west from London, and 50 minutes east. The distance from Sanda, one of the most northern isles of Orkney, to Swinburgh-head, the most southern part of Schetland, is twenty or twenty-one leagues.

There are about twenty-six of these islands inhabited, (the rest being only used to feed cattle) and of these are only three or four of note; whose principal towns are no other than villages, frequented by many strangers, who are employed in the fishery. Nevertheless, these are the islands supposed by some to be the *Ultima Thule* of the ancients, in which they placed their Elysium; and

the surprizing length of the days here, during June and July, when the people can see to read by the midnight light, might give occasion to the notion, that here was to be found day everlasting. The sun sets between ten and eleven at night, and rises between one and two in the morning; and on the other hand, the day is so much shorter, and the night longer, in the winter; which, with the violence of the tides, and the tempestuousness of the seas, deprives them from all correspondence from October to April, during which time they hear nothing of what passes in the other parts of the world. A known instance of this was, that though the revolution happened to begin in November, they knew nothing of it till the May following, when a fisherman who arrived there told them of it; and then they imprisoned him, in order to try him for spreading such news.

In the summer months great quantities of herrings are caught upon these coasts, not only by the English, but by foreigners; especially the Dutch, who have partly robbed us of this trade, which chiefly belongs to England, the Dutch sending a great number of herring-busses here, to the amount of sometimes two thousand and upwards; Sir Walter Raleigh makes them in his time to be thirty thousand. It is this concourse of foreigners, and this alone, that makes all the trade of Schetland; for as to the islands themselves, their trade is little or nothing, except corn and cattle, and these the Dutch buy in great quantities, in exchange for goods they bring along with them for that purpose, in which they drive so great a trade, that they set up booths ashore, as in a fair, where they sell a great many useful things, but especially wines, brandy and spices; and receive in return, beer, bread, and fruit, plants, &c. During this fair, as it may be called, the islanders enrich themselves

selves greatly by selling several sorts of Scots manufactures to the Dutch seamen, as well as all sorts of provisions ; and also by fishing with their own barks and cobs, and taking great quantities of fish on their own accounts, which the Dutch buy of them,

“ It is surprizing, says a late author, that for eight months in the year, the northern island, that enjoyed so much of the day in the other four, are lost in darkness and ice, tempests and storms; not a ship to be seen about them, their sea not navigable in most of the sounds, and very few ships to be seen in the rest, where the sea may be said to be open. But when the sun returns to them about the middle of May, or beginning of June, how chearful it is to see the sea covered with ships and boats, where fleets of sloops spreading themselves all about those islands, and with full cry hunting the seals and sea dogs, whales and fin fish, among the floating islands of ice, as the hounds hunt the hares and foxes among the forests and woods. No danger, no disaster discourage them; if they miscarry for a whole season, if they are crushed to pieces, or locked up in and starved to death among the frightful mountains of ice, (for many are the dangers and difficulties which attend them in that desperate case) others come in their place, as sure as the season returns in greater numbers rather, both of ships and men, eager to run the same hazards. At Schetland indeed, the ice and snows are not so terrible, but the storms and tempests are more frequent, and ever more dreadful than the ice about the pole; and tho’ the seas are open as to frosts, yet they are continually disturbed with the most violent storms that can be imagined.”

The air is piercing cold here, yet many of the inhabitants live to a great age. They are supposed



to have been originally Goths, by the remains of their old language and customs; but they are now mixed with the Scots Lowlanders, dress like them, talk English, and are much improved by foreigners, and others, who come hither to fish. The people in general seem to be of a religious disposition, and, excepting a few, are all Protestants. They are plain, good-natured, and often make feasts to compose quarrels and frays. They live much upon salt-fish, which makes them very subject to the scurvy, against which nature has furnished them with plenty of scurvy-grass; for they use no physicians nor surgeons. They cure the jaundice by mixing the powder of snail-shell in their drink. Their common drink is whey, which the natives barrel up and keep in cold cellars, till it is very strong. Some drink butter-milk mixed with water, which they call *Blaud*; but the better sort have good beer and ale. Most of them live by fishing and fowling, and are very expert at their fire-arms.

As their coast abounds with fish of all sorts for most part of the year, the common people not only live upon them so much, as has been said, but in the winter they use fish-oil instead of tallow candles. Here are otters, as well as whales and seals; and they have fowls of all sorts, particularly geese and ducks of several kinds. But it has been observed, that though Schetland abounds with heath, yet heath-cocks and other fowls which frequent heaths, will not live there. They have abundance of little horses, called *Skeltres*, fit both for the plough and the saddle, being naturally pacers, very sprightly, and strong enough to carry double, though they have small legs, and are so light, that it is said, a man may lift them from the ground. They are of two sorts, one pyed, but the black is the best. They live sometimes to  
thirty

thirty years of age, and are all the while fit for service. They are never housed, and when they have no grafs feed upon sea-ware, which is only to be had at the Tide of Ebb. Their black cattle and sheep are reduced to the same feeding during the frost and snow. The eagles destroy many of their lambs, of which the ewes sometimes cast two or three at once. Here are a vast number of crows different from those on the main land, their heads, wings and bill being black, and the back, breast, tail, &c. grey. The inhabitants live partly on sea-fowl in the summer and harvest, and get considerably by their down and feathers. The several species of these birds build and hatch apart, and each tribe keeps close together. There are sometimes such numerous flights of them that they darken the air. They arrive commonly in February, keep very close together for sometime, till they have rested; and after they have hatched their young, and find they can fly, they go away together to some unknown place. The inhabitants of the lesser isles maintain themselves in summer by eggs and fowls. The men are dexterous climbers, and are let down in baskets by ropes. Their fuel is turf, peat and heath. They make coarse cloth, stockings, and knit gloves for their own use, and for sale to the Norwegians, though their most profitable export is fish. There are several ancient monuments in these islands, particularly those called *Piñs Houses*.

The chief island called the *Main-land*, is above sixty miles long, and in some places sixteen broad, being much indented with bays. It runs into the sea with abundance of promontories, and is best inhabited on the shores, but the inner part is mountainous, and full of lakes and bogs, which render it dangerous to travellers in that part of the

the island, they are chiefly supplied with corn from Orkney; but they have barley and oats of their own.

The principal town is *Lerwick*, on the east side of the island, which is increased by the fishing trade to above three hundred families.

There is another island called *Callaway*, on the west side; it is small, and the inhabitants are not so numerous as those in Lerwick, there not being above one hundred; but it is the ordinary place for the administration of justice, and is defended by a castle of four stories high. The situation is much pleasanter than at Lerwick. The castle, which is on the south side of it, is quite fallen to decay. It was built by Patrick Stewart, Earl of Orkney, in the year 1600, and served as a garrison for the English soldiers that were sent hither by Oliver Cromwell.

The other islands of most note are, first, *Brassa*, or *Breasa*, to the east of Main-land, over against Lerwick, which is five miles long and two broad, has some arable ground, and about two churches. It is famous for the herring-fishery in its summer, and the Hamburgers and people of Bremen come hither about the middle of May, set up shops, and sell linen, muslin, &c. for fish, stockings, mutton, poultry, &c. But the inhabitants have prompt payment for their goods. The land owners are considerable gainers by letting out their houses and grounds to the sea-men for shops. There is great plenty of a particular kind of fish on this coast, called tusk; it is as big as a ling, of a broad yellow colour, with a broad tail, and better fresh than salted, they are taken about the latter end of May.

2. The *Skerries* are two little islands, on which ships are often cast away. In one of them there is a church.

3. *Burray*,

3. *Burray*, which is about three miles long, has good pasturage, and abounds with fish. It has a large church and steeple. The inhabitants say that no mice will live in it, and that they forsake the place wherever the earth of it is brought; but the island of Whalsay, which is about three miles long, and the same in breadth, is much infested by rats that destroy the corn.

4. *Vuist*, or *Vuist*, is one of the pleasantest islands of Schetland. It is fruitful and well inhabited, about nine miles long, and reckoned the most northern isle of all the British Dominions. It has three churches, and as many harbours. The natives say, that no cat will live in this isle.

5. *Yell* is sixteen miles in length, and as to breadth, it is indented like the figure of eight. It lies north east from the main land, and has three churches and several chapels. This is such a mossy moorish country, that the minister is obliged to go almost eight miles to the church, through a sloughy land, where he is in danger of sinking up to the knees.

6. *Festor*, or *Fetlor*, is five miles long and four broad, has a church, and some of the Picts-houses, entire to this day. The highest are not above twenty or thirty feet high, twelve broad in the middle, and tapering towards both ends. The entry is lower than the doors of most houses commonly are, the windows long and narrow, and the stairs go up between the walls. They were built for watch towers and beacons, from the tops of which they made signals by fire, and under them were cells all vaulted over. The inhabitants say, that when a vessel sails on the west side of this island, near the Horse of Udsta, the Needle of the compass is always disordered.

7. *Foula*, which is three miles long, has a harbour, and a rock so high, that it is seen at Orkney.  
Some



Some affirm this to be the *Ultima Thule* of the ancients, of which we have lately made mention, and *Camden* inclines to this opinion: But *Dr. Wallace*; in his description of Orkney, and *Sir Robert Sibbald*, make it much more probable from the Romans and other historians, that the north-east coast of Scotland was what they call the *Ultima Thule*; but we have not room to mention the arguments, for the several Hypotheses, and to those authors we refer the curious for further satisfaction.

8. *Papa Flour* is said to be the pleasantest little island of them all, is well furnished with fuel, corn, grafs, rabbits, &c.

The *Lyre Skerries*, though it is but two miles long, is so called, because frequented by the Lyres, the fat fowls before mentioned.

## T H E

## S H I R E of P E E B L E S.

**I**T is also called *Tweeddale*, from the river *Tweed*, rising at a place called *Tweeds Cross*, runs east the whole length of the shire. It is bounded on the east with *Elric Forest*; on the south with part of the Forest of *St. Mary Lough* and *Annandale*; on the west with the *Overward of Clydesdale*; and on the north with *Caldermoor*, the head of *North-Esk* and *Mid Lothian*. Some make it twenty-eight miles

miles in length, and eighteen where broadest, and has an area of three hundred and eight square miles. Its climate is temperate and the air clear. It is generally swelled with hills, many of which are as verdant as the Suffex Downs, and intermixed with pleasant vallies, fruitful in corn and grass, well watered, and adorned with gentlemen's seats. Their grain is generally oats and barley. They have black cattle, milk, cheese, and butter. The sheep, which feed in vast flocks upon the hills, and are much prized for their flesh and their wool, are said to live till they are fifteen years old. There are a number of rivers that fall into the Tweed, and supply the country with plenty of fine salmon; and a lake called the West Water-loch, which so abounds with eels and other fish about August, that during the west wind they come out in such shoals into the Yarrow, a small river which runs into the lake, that it is reported, they are ready to overthrow the people who go in to catch them. There is another lake called Lochgeven, upon Gevenhill, which falls into Annandale from a precipice two hundred and fifty feet high, so that many times fish are killed by the fall of the water. The sheeps wool of these parts used formerly to be exported to France, till it was prohibited by the union act, upon the severest penalties; and to make the gentlemen of the southern counties amends, a great sum of money was granted them as an equivalent, to encourage them to set the poor to work.

The Frasers were ancestors by marriage to the family of Tweedale; and of this name was that great Captain Simon Fraser, who contributed so much to the victory which the Scots obtained in one day over three English armies at Roslin, in the year 1301, during Wallace's administration.

The only town of note here is

*Peebles*, the head burgh and market town which gives name to the shire. It is situate in a very pleasant plain, on the banks of the Tweed, over which it has a stately bridge of five arches, and near a river of its own name, over which it has two bridges; and formerly it was remarkable for its three churches, three gates, three streets, and three bridges. The town is but small, and not very well built or inhabited, though there are some good houses in it, as well as a handsome parish, and it is the seat of a Presbytery.

Merlin is said to be buried in the church-yard of Drumelzier, in this county; and, according to an old prophecy, "That the kingdoms should be united, when Tweed and Pausel met at his grave," they say, that it happened so by an inundation, when King James VI. came to the crown of England, in the year 1603, the only time, before or since, it ever did so.

Some remains of antiquity are visible in this county. The place called Randal's Trench seems to have been a Roman Camp, and a Causeway leads from it half a mile together to the town of Lyne.

In this county are two very lively monuments of the vanity of human glory. The first is the foundation of a prodigious building (more like a royal palace than the seat of a private nobleman) begun by the Earl of Morton, whose head was no sooner cut off than his design perished; for it has never since been carried on.

The other is the palace of Traquair, built and finished by the late Earl of Traquair, for some years Lord High Treasurer of Scotland, and a person in the highest posts both of honour and profit in the kingdom, who yet lost all by the fatality of the times; for growing into universal dislike by his conduct,

conduct under Charles I. he sunk into the most abject condition of human life, even to want bread and to take alms; and died in those miserable circumstances about a year before the restoration. The house is noble, the design great, and well finished; but the owner was soon turned out of it by his enemies, who thought the sparing of his life an act of great mercy.

Bishop Burnet represents this Earl as a very mean-spirited man, and one that suffered himself to be made so vile a tool in other people's mischiefs that he fell unpitied. It is remarkable, that he was despised even by the party which he had served, and but too faithfully adhered to.

Here are the ruins of the once famous abbey of Melross, the greatness of which may be a little guessed at by the vast extent of its remains. One may still distinguish many noble parts of the monastery, particularly the great church or chapel, as large as some cathedrals, the choir of which is visible, and a hundred and forty feet in length, besides what may have been pulled down at the east end. By the thickness of the foundations, there must have been a large and strong tower, or steeple, in the centre of the church. There are likewise several fragments of the house itself: and the court and other buildings are so visible, that it is easy to know it was a most magnificent place in its day.

Just above this abbey is a noble bridge over the river Tweed, the key stone of the great arch of which was driven October 30, 1768.

The



## T H E

## SHIRE of PERTH,

**I**S a large, plentiful and rich country, which has Badenoch and Lochabar on the north and north-west; Mare on the north-east; Argyleshire, Lennoxshire, and Dunbartonshire, on the west and south-west; Clackmannanshire, part of Sterlingshire, and the river and Firth of Forth, to the south; Kinrossshire and Fife, to the south-east; and Angus to the east. It is computed to be above seventy-three miles in length, and fifty-nine in breadth, and has an area of two thousand four hundred and seventy-eight square miles. It is fruitful both in pasture and corn, the former in the high grounds, the latter in the low lands, especially in Gowry; and it is interperfed with fruit-trees, groves, rivers, and lakes.

The chief rivers in this shire, are, 1. The Tay, the largest in all Scotland, which rises out of the mountains of Braidalbin, and after spreading itself into a lake of the same name, fifteen miles in length, and almost six in breadth, runs near forty miles exclusive of windings and turnings, into that called the Firth of Tay, into which it also carries other rivulets. 2. The Keith, famous for its salmon-

mon-fishery. It has a cataract near the Blair of Dromond, the noise of which stuns those that come near it. 3. The river Jern, rises from Lochern, a lake seven miles in length, and one broad, in the mountainous county of Strathern, and falls into the Tay of Abernethy, after a course of thirty-four miles from east to west, and being joined by several rivers in its passage.

In this county there are five Presbyteries, and about eighty-eight parish churches. It formerly had two Bishop's See, three monasteries and one nunnery.

*Athol*, the most northern division, has Badenoch on the north; Lochabar on the west; Mar and Gowry on the south and south-east; Strathern and Perth Proper on the south; and Braidalbin on the south-west. It is forty-three miles from north-west to south-east, where longest, and thirty-one where broadest. Here are many mountains, and the vallies are full of woods. The places in it are of little account; but the Earls to whom it has given title, have been very memorable. Mr. *Camden* says, that Athol is infamous for witches; and that the ancient Caledonian Forest spread far and near in these parts, yet it is a country fruitful enough.

The Duke of Athol is lord, or rather a petty sovereign, of this county; and has the greatest number of vassals of any nobleman in this, or any part of Scotland.

The late Duke was always an opposer of the union in the parliament holden at Edinburgh, for passing it into an act; but he did not carry his opposition to an height of tumult and rebellion.

The Duke has a fine seat near here, at the Castle of Blair, situate on the river Tilt, near its influx into the river Garry, a fine clear river that  
falls

falls into the Tay. By means of sluices this river is formed into a pond, quite in the front of the house, which is six stories high, and a prison in appearance, having the windows covered with iron bars; its walls are five feet thick. It has vast high mountains on every side; but at a great distance from the house. The gardens are not so curious as at the Duke's house at Dunkeld; but here are statues, which the other has not; which are, an Hercules, a Diana, Bacchus, and a Temple of Fame, filled on every side with bustoes of the ancient philosophers and poets; that of the Duke himself being placed in the middle, in lead gilt. He has also English cattle, which thrive well. The town consists only of a few peat houses, except the minister's house, one pretty good change as it is called, or public-house, and a poor old kirk, the pews all broken down, doors open, and full of dirt: the minister, however preaches in it once a week, in the Erse tongue. Mile-stones are erected to this house from Dunkeld, which is about twenty miles.

The country of Braidalbin has not so much as a single village in it of ten houses; yet, from its Latin name, *Albania*, has often given the title of Duke to some of the Royal Family: it is seated very near the centre of Scotland; and is alledged to be the highest ground in it; for that the rivers which rise here, are said to run every way from this part, some into the Eastern, and some into the Western Seas.

The Grampian Mountains here are said to cut through Scotland. As the country is rough and uncultivated, the inhabitants are an hardy race of men, who make excellent soldiers, when they are listed abroad in regular and disciplined troops; and we must say, that they are much civilized to what they were formerly. These mountains abound  
with

with flocks of black cattle, sheep, horses, and goats. The beef and mutton are of a delicious taste, and the wool is valued for its whiteness and softness.

*Gillicranky*, in this neighbourhood, is of note for the battle fought near it, after the revolution, between King William's troops, commanded by General Mackay, and those who took arms for King James II. under the Viscount of Dundee. Both sides pretended to the victory; but that Lord falling in the battle, damped the courage of the men, and stopped their progress.

*Braidalbin*, is the second division of the county, situate among the Grampian-hills; the name of which denotes it to be the highest part in all Scotland; for the true Scots call Scotland in their mother tongue *Albin*. It is bounded on the west with Lochabar, Lorn, and Knapdale; on the north with Athol and part of Lochabar; on the east with part of Athol; and on the south with Strathern and Meneith. It is above thirty-two Scots miles from east to west where longest, and about thirteen where broadest, from north to south. This appears to have been the country anciently called Albany, from whence the sons of the Royal Family had the title of Duke, which was last of all enjoyed by his Majesty's late brother, Edward Duke of York and Albany. It is inhabited by the Highlanders, who, as we have already hinted, call themselves *Albinnich* from this very country, and still retain the ancient language of Albin, and much of the ancient parsimony in their way of living; but it is said they are the wildest, most quarrelsome, and ungovernable of all the Highlanders.

*Menteith* is the third division. It is bounded with Braidalbin and Strathern on the north; Stirlingshire and part of Lennox on the south; Fife on the east; and another part of Lennox on the west.

It



It is forty-four miles from east to west, and twenty-four where broadest. It is said to have derived its name from the river *Teith*, called also *Taich*, and in Latin *Taichia*. It reaches to the mountains that inclose the east side of Lochlomond.

The only place of note in this division is the pleasant little town of *Dumblain*, on the west side of the river Allan, where King David I. erected a Bishopric; and the ruins of the Bishops and Regular Canons houses are still to be seen. There was also a church here, of most excellent workmanship, part of which remains entire. The town is a perfect amphitheatre, in a fine bottom, surrounded with hills. This place gives the title of Viscount to his Grace the Duke of Leeds in England; but it is of much more note for the late Duke of Argyle's defeat of the rebels under the Earl of Mar, at Sheriff Mair in the neighbourhood, the 13th of November 1715, the very day that their friends in England, under Lord Derwentwater, General Foster, and others, received the like defeat under General Wills. The Lord Drummond, Viscount Strath Allan, has a fine seat, and a considerable estate in the neighbourhood.

*Strathern*, the fourth division, has Menteith and part of Fife on the south; Braidalbin and Athol on the north; part of Menteith on the west; and Perth Proper on the east. It is about forty miles from east to west, and about forty from north to south, and its area is three hundred and fifty-two square miles. It takes its name from the river Ern, which runs from a lake of the same name, and after a course of thirty-five miles through the country, falls into the Tay. This stewartry, which is a good agreeable country, is supposed to be the *Jerne* mentioned by the Roman writers, there being many Roman camps in it, particularly one at Ardoch;

Ardoch; besides which, here is a Roman highway towards Perth. Seyerall Roman medals have also been found in this county; and not many years since, two *Fibule*, curiously enamelled, with a sepulchral stone.

The *Ochill-hills*, which run along the south parts of this shire, abound with metals and minerals, particularly good copper, and the lapis caliminaris; and in Glen Lyon there is lead. They have excellent peats and abundance of wood to supply the want of coal. That properly called Strathern, is a fine valley, about four miles broad, between the mountains, extremely fruitful, and strewed with gentlemens seats on the rise of hills, with plantations of trees, which makes the valley more agreeable.

Soon after the Ern shoots forth from the mountains, it spreads itself into a loch, as most of those rivers do, called Lochern, and then runs by Dupplin Castle, the seat of the Earl of Kinnoul, whose eldest son is thence called Lord Dupplin. The late Earl of Kinnoul, when Lord Dupplin, married the daughter of the Earl of Oxford, when Lord High Treasurer of England; and was, on that occasion, made a peer of Great Britain, by the title of Lord Hay of Pedwarden. His estate here is a very good one; but not attended with vassals and superiorities. The several owners of this seat having been pretty much used to reside in it, have adorned it at several times, each according to his particular genius. It has lately received a new decoration, two wings being added for offices, as well as ornament.

The old building is spacious, the rooms large and ceilings lofty, filled with furniture suitable to its outward magnificence, particularly with abundance of fine paintings, some of the Royal Family, among

among which is one of King Charles I. with a letter in his hand, held out to his son the Duke of York, afterwards King James VII. which, they said, he was to have carried to France. There is also a statue in brass of the same King on horseback; a picture of Oliver Cromwell, another of General Monk; both from the life. There is also a whole length of that Earl of Kinnoul, who was Lord Chancellor of Scotland in the reign of King James VI. and King Charles I. with several other pieces of Italian masters of great value.

Dupplin Castle is remarkable also for the greatest defeat the Scots ever received from the English, in the reign of Edward Baliol, whom the English came to assist. In this battle eighty of the family of Lindsay perished, and of the family of Hay so many, that the name had been extinguished, had not the chief left his wife with child.

The present Earl of Kinnoul, when Lord Dupplin, that is to say, in the life-time of his father, made a great figure in the House of Commons, being generally chosen to represent the University of Cambridge, for his knowledge and abilities in the affairs of Parliament, and was remarkable for his benevolent disposition, and readiness to do good to every worthy man, who had the honour of knowing him. His Lordship was his Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary at the Court of Portugal.

*Abernethy* stands at the south-east corner of this division, at the conflux of the river Ern and Tay. It is an ancient town, was the metropolis of the Picts, and a Bishop's See, till Pope Sixtus IV. removed it to St. Andrew's, in 1471. It gives title of Marquis and Earl to the Duke of Douglas, and some of the family are here interred. Near this town, on the public road, stood that famous monument

nument, called *Clan Macduff's Cross*, to which, if any had recourse, in case of Manslaughter, he was to be pardoned on paying a small number of cattle, if he was within the ninth degree of the great Macduff, who was the chief instrument in subduing the tyrant Macbeth.

*Carse of Gowry*, is the fifth territory, it has noble fields of corn, and is reckoned the beautifullest spot in England. It extends fourteen miles in length, and four in breadth, on the north side of the Tay, from Dundee to Perth, which is all a perfect garden.

*Perith Proper*, is the last division of this shire. It has the Carse of Gowry on the north-east; Angus on the east; Strathern on the west; Athol on the north; and the Frith, or Tay on the south. It is about twenty miles from north-west to south-east, and fifteen where broadest. The chief places of note here are,

*Dunkeld*, the chief market town of the Highlands, agreeably situate on the north side of the Tay, after it has received the Almund. It is surrounded with pleasant woods at the foot of the Grampian mountains. There are two ferries over the Tay, with boats for men and horse, always in readiness at different ends of the town; at either of which places the river is exceedingly deep, and the water looks quite black at a distance. King David erected this town into a Bishop's See, and here was formerly a beautiful and magnificent cathedral, dedicated to St. Columba; but they were dissolved at the reformation, and most part of the church is now in ruins. There is, at present, a most remarkable crack all up, and which, in painting, would make an entertaining landscape. The Duke of Athol's house, and this church, makes the greatest part of the town.

The



The seat of the Duke of Athol, indeed, is very noble; the gardens formed by nature. You have here variety of mounts and flats adorned with statues, and a neat green-house; as also an handsome stove, with many curious plants in it, such as pine-apples, torch thistles, oranges, lemons, &c. and several curious coffee-trees, which thrive very well. The highest houses or huts hereabouts are very oddly built, they being composed of clods of peat, stone and broom. As to chimnies, they are little acquainted with them; there is sometimes a little hole left open in the top for the smoke to go out, other times it is in the end, and most frequently the door performs this office.

*Scoon*, or *Scone*, is situate on the north bank of the Tay, and thought by some to be the centre of the kingdom. It was formerly famous for the coronation of the Kings of Scotland here, in the celebrated wooden chair, called the *Fatal Chair*, which, with the stone in it, was brought away from hence, by the victorious King Edward I. and placed in Westminster Abbey, where it now is; but the Scottish royal blood succeeding to the English crown, in the person of King James I. of England, and VI. of Scotland, verified the following prophetic distich, tho' at the time it was accounted no small loss and disgrace to the kingdom. The lines were these:

Ni fallat Fatum, Scoti, quocunque locatum  
Inyenient Lapidem, regnare tenentur ibidem.

Thus translated by the Scots:

Unless old prophets fail, and wizards wit decay,  
Were'er this stone is found, the Scots shall reign  
for ay.

It

It is said to have been first dignified by King Kenneth, who, having fought a bloody battle here with the Picts, in which he gave them a great overthrow, sat down to rest himself upon this stone, after he had been tired with the slaughter of the enemy; upon which his nobles came round him to congratulate his success; and, in honour to his valour, crowned him with a Garland of Victory; from whence he dedicated the stone to the coronation of all the future King's of Scotland, hoping from this omen, that they should, like him, be victorious over all their enemies.

But the better sort of Scots historians say, their Kings brought it from Ireland into I-Coln-Kill in the Isles, and from thence to Scoon, when they had subdued the Picts.

The palace of Scoon, though antient, is not so much decayed as some of those already spoken of; and the Pretender, in the year 1715, found it very well in repair for his use. Here he lived and kept his court, in all the state and appearance of a Sovereign. He issued proclamations, created several Lords, Knights, and Bishops; and preparations were made for crowning him: but as he had never, from his landing, gone into any Protestant church, though episcopal, as many of his adherents expected, but constantly performed his devotions with his priests after the Romish way; so he manifested such an invincible reluctance to comply with the coronation-oath, that the ceremony, for which some of the Popish ladies even pawned their jewels, was put off. An evidence, that the honesty of the man overcame the policy of the prince; and the greater, as the Pope could have given him a dispensation, at pleasure, to justify any breach of the oath. But this was such a warning to Protestants of what they had to trust to, should he have succeeded, that it deserves to be had in perpetual remembrance.

membrance. His mock royalty continued but twenty days ; he being then obliged to quit the kingdom, by the advance of the royal army.

The gallery in this place is the longest in Scotland. The cieling is painted ; but the painting is very old.

The building is large, the front being above two hundred feet ; it has two extraordinary fine square courts, besides others, which contain the offices, outhouses, &c. The royal apartments are spacious and large, but the whole building is entirely after the ancient manner.

*Culross* is a market town and royal burgh, famous for a branch of the iron manufacture in making girdles, i. e. broad round plates, on which they bake their oat cakes. Here was formerly an abbey, the ruins of which was turned into a stable, but it has been repaired within these few years by the Earl of Dundonald. *Buchanan* derives the name from *Cul*, i. e. (in old Scots) the back or hind part, and *Rosse*, which signifies a peninsula. The remains of gentlemen's seats of long standing, are every where to be seen, in the erection of which houses, the builders shewed, that they studied duration preferable to convenience. We cannot help comparing past times with the present, in the former of which the grandeur of the prince, and the splendor of the few noble families were supported at the expence of the people in general, who (the clergy excepted) laboured under the lowest degree of poverty, slavery, and ignorance ; whereas now, our traffickers enjoy the fruits of their own labour and industry.

Here is a very noble seat belonging to the Bruces, Earls of Kincardine, and is well worth a traveller's notice ; and indeed these instances of magnificence are so frequent in Scotland, that were we to dwell upon each of them, such of our readers as know  
nothing —

nothing of Scotland, would be apt to think we were too partial in its favour. It is certain, that no gentry or nobility in the world formerly exceeded the Scots in noble houses, and all manner of magnificence; as their families, for antiquity of descent; hardly have any equals in any country on earth.

*Perth* is a royal burgh, the head town of the sherrifdom, and the place where the sherriff keeps his court, and is reckoned the second town in dignity in Scotland. It is commonly called St. John's town, from a church there dedicated to St. John. This town is pleasantly situated in a hollow, between two green meadows, which they call the *Inches*, and serve for bleaching of linen. It has three very large streets, and many cross ones, with an old wall in ruins, surrounding every side but that bordered by the Tay, which flows on the north of the town, where at full tide vessels of good burden come up. It formerly had a bridge of stone, which was carried away by an inundation. Here was also a famous monastery founded by King James I. in the year 1430, for the Carthusians.

The old town, called Perth, being overflowed by the river in 1029, King William of Scotland built this near it, but in a more commodious place. It soon became so wealthy, that Neckam, the poet of that age, said its riches supported the whole kingdom. The parliaments have been often held at this town. The English fortified themselves here in the reign of Edward I. and withstood a powerful siege by King Robert Bruce, who took it, and afterwards demolished the greatest part of the fortification.

In the rebellion 1715, it was seized by the rebels, who proclaimed the Pretender, and made it the



the chief place of their arms and rendezvous, till the Duke of Argyle and General Cadogan marched against them, when they were obliged to fly. However, it so enriched itself by the money spent by the concourse of nobility and gentry of both parties, that the inhabitants were enabled to build themselves many public and private buildings, particularly a new Tolbooth, or Town-hall.

The linen trade here is greatly increased since the act of parliament passed for the suppressing printed calicoes, so that they now ship off vast quantities for England; they have also a considerable trade to the Baltic and Norway.

The high country behind Perth affords plentiful pasture to sheep and black cattle; and the lowlands produce abundance of corn. The fir-trees and other plantations in its neighbourhood, are very great improvements, and no doubt considerably increase the export from this town, great quantities of good salmon are taken in its river.

The

[ 81 ]

**The SHIRE of RENFREW,**

O R

**REINFRAW.**

**T**HIS shire is bounded with Cunningham on the south, the shire of Dumbarton on the west, from which it is parted by the Clyde; Lenarkshire on the east, and Lennox on the north.

It is called the Barony by way of eminence, because having been the ancient inheritance of the Stuarts before they were Kings, it gave title of Baron to the Prince of Scotland before the union, as it does now, together with Snowdon in Wales to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. It is reckoned thirty miles in length, thirteen in breadth, and its area is two hundred and thirty square miles. The part of it next the Clyde is fruitful and pleasant, with a few small risings only, and no mountains, but that to the south, south east, and west, is more barren, hilly and moorish, however, it abounds with all necessaries, and its air is healthful. The nobility and gentry of this shire keep up almost a constant relationship by intermarriages. The convenience of the Firth and Clyde, in which there is very safe riding upon all the coasts, has very much improved these parts. It is well watered with many small rivers, the chief of which are the Cart and the Black

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Cart,

Cart, that join together before they fall into the Clyde. The Lord Semple was formerly but the Earl of Eglington, is now the hereditary Sheriff of this county, which, though small, is populous, and has many gentlemen's seats.

At the foot of the New Bridge, which divides Glasgow from Renfrew, is *Gorbel*, a sort of suburbs to Glasgow, on the left is Langsidehill, noted for the battle in 1563, which decided the fortune of Mary Stuart, and precipitated her into that fatal step of deserting her country, and flying herself into an eighteen years of captivity, terminating in the loss of her head, the disgrace of the annals of her glorious rival. A little distance from here, is *Cruikston Castle*, seated on the summit of a little hill; now a mere fragment, only part of a square tower remaining of a place of much magnificence, when in its full glory. The situation is delicious, commanding a view of a well cultivated tract, divided into a multitude of fertile little hills.

This was originally the property of the *Crocs*, a potent people in this country, but in the reign of Malcolm II. was conveyed, by the marriage of the heiress, daughter of Robert Decores, into the family of the Stuarts, in after times Earls and Dukes of Lenox, who had great possessions in these parts. To this place Henry Darnly retired with his enamoured Queen, and here fame says, that Mary resigned herself to the arms of her beloved, beneath a yew still existing; the fair Queen struck a coin on the occasion, with the figure of the fatal tree, honoured with a crown, and distinguished by the allusive motto *dat gloria vires*, &c.

*Pasley* or *Paisley*, a considerable but irregular built town, stands about two miles from *Cruikston*, on the river *White Cart*, where they fish for pearls. It was erected into a burgh or barony in the year 1488, and the affairs of the community are managed by

by three bailies, of which the eldest is commonly in the commission of the peace, a treasurer, a town-clerk, and seventeen counsellors, who are annually elected upon the first Monday after Michaelmas. It stands on both sides the river Cart, over which it has three stone bridges, each of two arches; the river runs from south to north, and empties itself into the Clyde, about three miles below the town: At spring tides vessels of forty tuns burthen come up to the quay; and, as the magistrates are now clearing and deepening the river, it is hoped still greater may get up. The communication by water is of great importance to the inhabitants, for sending their goods and manufactures to Port-Glasgow and Greenock, and, if they chuse it, to Glasgow; and besides, the grand canal being finished, they have an easy communication with the Firth of Forth, as the canal joins the Clyde about three or four miles north of Paisley.

Norwithstanding its antiquity, this town was of little consequence till within these fifty years; before that period scarce any other manufacture was carried on but coarse linnen checks, and a kind of striped cloth called Bengals; both which have long been given up here: While these were the only manufactures, the inhabitants seem to have had no turn for enlarging their trade, for their goods were exposed to sale in the weekly market, and chiefly bought up by dealers from Glasgow; some of them, however, who travelled into England to sell Scotch manufactures, picked up a more general knowledge of trade, and having saved a little money, settled at home, and thought of establishing other branches; to which they were the more encouraged, as their acquaintance in England was like to be of great use to them.

About fifty years ago, the making of white stitching threads was first introduced into the west country  
by



by a private gentlewoman, Mrs. Millar of Bargarran, who, very much to her own honour, imported a twist-mill, and other necessary apparatus, from Holland, and carried on a small manufacture in her own family; this branch, now of such general importance to Scotland, was soon after established in Paisley; where it has ever since been on the increase, and has now diffused itself over all parts of the kingdom. In other places girls are bred to it: here they may be rather said to be born to it, as almost every family makes some threads, or have made formerly. It is generally computed, that, in the town and neighbourhood, white threads are annually made to the amount of from forty to fifty thousand pounds.

The manufacture of lawns, under various denominations, is also carried on here to a considerable amount, and to as great perfection as in any part of Europe. Vast quantities of foreign yarn is annually imported from France, Germany, &c. for this branch, as only the lower priced kinds can be made of our home manufactured yarn. It is thought the lawn branch here amounts to about seventy thousand pounds annually. The silk gauze has also been established here, and brought to the utmost perfection; it is wrought to an amazing variety of patterns, for such is the ingenuity of our weavers, that nothing in their own branch is too hard for them. It is commonly reckoned that this branch amounts to about sixty thousand pounds annually.

A manufacture of ribbons has, within these twelve months, been established here, and both flowered and plain are made, in every respect as good as in any place of England. In these different branches a great number of people are employed, many of them boys and girls, who must otherwise have been idle for some years. It must be extremely agreeable to every man who wishes well to his country, to see, in the summer season, both sides of the river, and a  
great

great many other fields about town, covered with cloth and threads ; and to hear, at all seasons, as he passes along the streets, the industrious and agreeable noise of weavers looms and twist mills. The late unfortunate stagnation of trade has been felt here, as well as in most other parts of the island ; but it is hoped, if things were a little more settled, trade will revive, and the industrious artificers be again all employed.

Besides these general manufactures, several others of a more local kind are carried on here ; there is a very considerable one of hard-soap and tallow candles, both of which are esteemed excellent of their kinds, as the gentlemen concerned spared no expence to bring their manufacture to perfection ; their candles, especially their moulded ones, are reckoned the best and most elegant that have been made in Scotland, and great quantities of them are sent to England and to the West-Indies. They are made after the Kensington manner, and with this view they had a man from London at very high wages. There are also two tanning works in town, and a copperas work in the neighbourhood.

Before the year 1735 the whole people in the parish, town and county, said their prayers in one church, and the reverend and learned Mr. Robert Millar discharged the whole duties of the pastoral office for many years without an assistant ; but since that period the town has increased so much, that besides the old church, there are now two large ones, and two seceding meeting houses. The church first built, called the Laigh or Low church, is in form of a Greek cross, very well laid out, and contains a great number of people ; the other, called the High Church, is a very fine building, and, as it stands on the top of a hill, its lofty stone spire is seen at a vast distance : the church is an oblong square, of eighty-two feet by sixty-two, within the walls, built of free stone,

stone, well smoothed, having rustic corners, and an elegant stone cornice at top; though the areas be so large, it has no pillars, and the seats and lofts are so well laid out, that, though the church contains about three thousand people, every one of them sees the minister; in the construction of the roof (which is a pavilion, covered with slate, having a platform covered with lead on the top) there is something very curious; it is admired by every man of taste, and, with the whole building, was planned and conducted by the late very ingenious Baillie Whyte, of this place. The town-house is a very handsome building, of cut-stone, with a tall spire, and a clock, part of it is lett for an inn, the rest is used as a prison, and court-rooms; for here the sheriff-courts of the county are held. The flesh-market has a genteel front, of cut-stone, and is one of the neatest and most commodious of the kind in Britain; butchers meat, butter, cheese, fish, wool, and several other articles, are sold here by what they call the tron pound of twenty-two English ounces and a half. The poor-house is a large building, very well laid out, and stands opposite to the quay, in a fine free air; it is supported by a small tax, imposed on the inhabitants quarterly. There are at present in the house above sixty, of which number about thirty-six are boys and girls, who are carefully educated, and the boys put out to business at the expence of the house. Besides these, many out-pensioners have weekly supplies. Most of the mechanics and artificers in town, and several others, that fall not under these denominations, have formed themselves into societies, and have established funds for the aid of their distressed members; these funds are generally well managed, and of very great benefit to individuals.

The old part of the town runs from east to west upon the south slope of a ridge of hills, from  
which

which there is a pleasant and very extensive prospect of the city of Glasgow, and the adjacent country on all sides, but to the southward, where the view terminates on a ridge of green hills, about two miles distant. Including the late buildings and suburbs, it is about an English mile long, and much about the same breadth. So late as the year 1746, by a very accurate survey, it was found to contain scarce four thousand inhabitants; but it is now thought to have no fewer than from ten to twelve thousand, all ages included. The Earl of Abercorn's burial place is by much the greatest curiosity in Paisley; it is an old gothic chapel, without pulpit or pew, or any ornament whatever; but has the finest echo perhaps in the world; when the end-door (the only one it has) is shut, the noise is equal to a loud and not very distant clap of thunder, if you strike a single note of music, you hear the sound gradually ascending, till it dies away, as if at an immense distance, and all the while diffusing itself through the circumambient air: if a good voice sings, or a musical instrument is well played upon, the effect is inexpressibly agreeable. In this chapel is the monument of Marjory Bruce: she lies recumbent, with her hands closed, in the attitude of prayer; above was once a rich arch, with sculptures of the arms, &c. Her story is singular, she was daughter of Robert Bruce, and wife of Walter, Great Steward of Scotland, and mother of Robert the 1<sup>st</sup>. In the year 1317, when she was big with child, she broke her neck in hunting near this place, the Cæsarian operation was instantly performed, and the child taken out alive; but the operator chancing to hurt one eye with his instrument, occasioned the blemish that gave him afterwards the epithet of Blear-eye; and the monument is also stiled that of Queen Bleary. In the same chapel were interred Elizabeth Muir and Euphemia Ross, both consorts



to the same Monarch; the first died before his accession.

About half a mile south-west of Paisley, lies *Maxwellton*; a very neat little village, erected since the year 1746, where the manufactures of silk gauze is carried on to a considerable extent.

There is scarce a vestige remaining of the monastery founded in 1160, by Walter, son of Allan, "Dapifer Regis Scotiæ pro anima quondam regis David et anima Henrici regis anglia et anima comitis Henrici et pro salute corporis et animæ regis Malcolmi et pro animabus omnium parentum meorum, et benefactorum nec non et mei ipsius salute, &c."

The monks, who were instructed with this weighty charge, were first of the order of Cluniacs, afterwards changed to Cisterians; and lastly, the first order was again restored.

The garden wall, a very noble and extensive one of cut stone, conveys some idea of the ancient grandeur of the place: by a rude inscription still extant, on the north-west corner, it appears to have been built by George Shaw, the abbot, in the year 1484, the same gentleman, who four years after procured a charter for the town of Paisley. The inscription is too singular to be omitted:

They call it the Abbot George of Shaw,

About my abby gart make this waw,

An hundred four hundredth year

Eighty-four the date but weir.

Pray for his salvation

That laid this noble fundation.

It now belongs to the Earl of Abercorn, who re-purchased this paternal inheritance of his family from the Earl of Dundonnald, in 1764. The abbey-church, when entire, has been a grand building,

ing, in form of a cross; the great north window is a noble ruin, the arch very lofty, the middle pillar wonderfully light, and still entire; only the chancel now remains, which is divided into a middle and two side aisles; all very lofty pillars, with gothic arches; above these are another range of pillars, much larger, being the segment of a circle, and above a row of arched niches, from end to end; over which the roof ends in a sharp point. The outside of the building is decorated with a profusion of ornaments, especially the great west and north doors, than which scarce any thing lighter or richer can be imagined.

But notwithstanding popery and episcopacy were expelled this country, yet superstition and credulity kept fully possession in these parts. In 1697 twenty poor wretches were condemned for the imaginary crime of witchcraft, and five actually suffered at the stake on the 10th of June in the same year. So deep was the folly of excess in belief rooted here, that full credit seems to have been given to an account that one of the condemned (a wizzard) was strangled in his chair by the devil, we suppose, lest he should make a confession to the detriment of his service.

The vestiges of the Roman camp at Paisley, are at present almost annihilated of the outworks mentioned by *Camden*, there are no traces of any, excepting one, for at a place called *Castle-head*, are still left a few marks, but nothing entire. There has been a military road leading to the camp, which is supposed to have been the *Vanduarra* of *Ptolemy*.

In the road from hence towards Renfrew, is a moss or tumulus, with a fosse round the base and a single stone erected on the top. Near this place was defeated and slain Sumerled, Thane of Argyle, who, in 1169, with a great army of banditti, col-  
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lected from Ireland and other parts, landed in the Bay of St. Laurence, and led them in rebellion against Malcolm III.

*Renfrew*, is the shire town, and a royal burgh, now an inconsiderable place, upon which the ancient Barons had their habitations. It is a small, but ancient town. Robert the Second had a palace here, which stood on a piece of ground of about half an acre, still called the Castle-hill, but nothing remains but the ditch that surrounded it. This monarch first made Renfrew an independant sherrifdom, far before it was joined to that of Lanerk.

*Longside* is noted for the appearance of an old Roman camp on the top of the hills, and for the defeat of the army of Mary Queen of Scots, by the Protestant nobility, under the Earl of Murray, Regent for the young King, her son.

*Greenock*, a handsome well built town on the Firth of the Clyde, where it receives its river, has a good harbour, and is noted for being the seat of the west herring fishery. It is an excellent road for shipping to and from Glasgow, just as the Downs is with regard to London, and has a castle to command it. Here are many rich trading families, and the place is noted for good seamen, and excellent pilots. Near this place is *Crawfold Dyke*, where are some good houses.

*Gowrock*, is a small town and castle, at the west end of a bay on the Firth.

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T H E

S H I R E    o f    R O S S .

**T**HIS shire, which commands a prospect of both the Western and German Oceans, comprehends the shires of Tain and Cromartie. The former includes the greater part of Ross, with the Isles of Sky, Lewis and Herais; the latter a small part of Ross, lying on the south side of Cromartie Frith.

The shire of Ross in general including Tain and Cromartie, as above, has the Western Sea and part of the Isle of Sky on the west; Inverness, and part of that island on the south; Strathnaver and Sutherland on the north and north-east; and Cromartie and Murray Firth on the east. It takes up the whole breadth of the island, and is much indented by bays, of both seas, especially the Western. The form is very irregular, because it is much contracted on the north-east and south by the neighbouring counties. It is above fifty miles from north to south, on the west side, and about sixty where longest, from east to west, but unequal both ways.

It is for most part mountainous, and woody towards the Western Ocean; but on that side next to the German sea it is better cultivated; is more fruitful in corn, better than could be expected so far north,



as are also its fruit and herbs, and abounds with pasture. The strathes, or vallies, near the rivers are full of wood, particularly upon Charnon, and the Water of Broan, and near Alfaring there are great woods of fir, some of which are fifteen or twenty miles in length. It feeds great numbers of black-cattle, sheep, horses, goats, and deer, is well supplied with fresh-water fish by its lakes and rivers, and has abundance of sea and land fowl.

The locks on the west coast abound with herrings in the season, particularly Loch Ew, which is divided into two parts, one of them a bay of the sea, and the other a fresh-water lake, about nine miles where longest, and three where broadest. There are great woods on the side of it, where abundance of iron was formerly made.

*Loch Bryan*, on the South coast is another Bay, that runs ten miles up the country, is three miles broad at the mouth, and is famous for herrings; it receives many rivers, and on the north side are many villages.

*Coygach*, and *Afkyat*, are two distinct districts north from here; Coygach and Strath Kennand, bounds the north side of the bay, it is a forfeited estate, and unalienably annexed to the crown. The commissioners give all possible encouragement to the tenants; and have power to grant larger leases than the lairds are inclined to do, which keeps the people under the government contented, and banishes from their mind all thoughts of emigration.

The people here are kind and hospitable, the country mountainous, but abounds with deer and other cattle. There are several gentlemen's seats towards the coast, and promontories with large rocks of marble and lime stone, of stupendous height, and generally of a conoid form.

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The middle part of the shire, called Ardros, is mountainous, and scarce inhabited, but left for pasturage. The north-east parts on the river Okel and Canon and Firth of Tay, are now pretty fruitful, and abounds with villages. This Firth runs up the east side of the shire near twenty-five miles, as far as the Cape of Tarbut, divides Ross from Sutherland, and is above seven miles broad at the mouth, but unsafe for navigation by reason of the quicksands.

*Ardmanach* is part of the peninsula betwixt the bays of Cromartie and Murray, thirteen miles and an half from east to west, and five and an half from north to south, where broadest. It has several high mountains, both pleasant and fruitful. It was a Barony which formerly gave title to the second son of the Kings of Scotland.

*Straitbarron* is an inland tract of this shire, so called from the river which divides it. It is a woody country, especially in firs, and abounds in horses and black cattle.

The sheriffdom of Ross, which is of late creation, is in the gift of the crown, and the county had formerly its own Earls, generally known in history by the style of the *Lord of the Isles*, a distance from the seat of royalty, and the turbulence of the times, which gave their monarch full employ. They exercised a regal power, and often assumed the title. It was annexed to the crown in the time of James III.

The last district, on the south-west, is *Glen-Etchey*, or *Glen Ely*, the paternal estate of the late Earl of Seaforth, whose chief seat is called *Castle-Ylendowen*, lying in an island in a narrow Frith. The late Earl Seaforth was chief of the ancient and noble family of Mackenzie, who had large possessions in this shire, till the same were forfeited by the

the rebellion of the late Earl, who was defeated at Glenchil, in this district, together with the Marquis of Tullibardin, and others, in 1719, and a body of Spaniards that came with them from Spain, made prisoners; but the Marquis and other Highland gentlemen escaped by sea.

Mr. Pennant gives the following account of this valley, and its curiosities:

“At a small distance from the house of Mr. Macleod, the Minister, are the remains of a mine of Black-lead, neglected because of the poverty of the lead found near the surface. A poor kind of bog of iron ore is found here.

Above the manre on the top of the hill, is a British fortress, dyked round with stone, and in the middle is a vestige of a circular enclosure, perhaps of a building, the shelter of the officers. Within sight is another of these retreats, which are called in the Erse, *Bà-dhun*, or the place of refuge.

“The valley is now the property of Mr. Macleod, of Dunvegan, acquired by a marriage of an ancestor with a daughter of Lord Bisset. The parish is of vast extent, and comprehends Knodiart and North-Morar. Glenelg has near seven hundred inhabitants, all Protestants: the other two districts are almost entirely of the popish persuasion. The reader who has the curiosity to know the number of Roman Catholics in these parts of North Britain, may know from the report made by the gentlemen appointed by the General Assembly, in 1760, to visit these remote Highlands, and the Hebrides, for the purpose of enquiring into the state of religion in those parts.

“This part of Glenelg is divided into two vallies; Glen-more, where the barracks are, from which is a military road of fifty-one miles extent, reaching to Fort-Augustus; the other is Glen-beg.

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The parish sends out a considerable number of cattle: these vallies would be fertile in corn, was it not for the plague of rain, which prevents tillage to such a degree, that the poor inhabitants feel the same distresses as their neighbours.

“ Going back by the barracks to Glen-beg, to visit the celebrated edifices attributed to the Danes: the first is placed about two miles from the mouth of the valley. The more entire side appears of a most elegant taper form: the present height is thirty feet six inches; but in 1722, some Goth purloined from the top, seven feet and an half, under pretence of applying the materials to certain public buildings. By the appearance of some ruins that now lie at the base, and which have fallen off since that time, I believe three feet more may be added to the height, which will make the whole about forty-one.

The whole is built with dry walls, but the courses most beautifully disposed. On one side is a breach of at least one quarter of the circumference. The diameter within is thirty-three feet and an half, taken at the distance of ten feet from the bottom: the wall in that part is seven feet four inches thick, but is formed thinner and thinner till it reaches the top, whose breadth was not measured. This inside wall is quite perpendicular, so that the inner diameter must have been equal from top to bottom: but the exterior wall slopes, encreasing in thickness till it reaches the ground.

In the thickness of the wall were two galleries; one at the lower part about six feet two inches high, and two feet five at the bottom, narrowing to the top; flagged, and also covered over with great flat stones. This gallery ran quite round, and that horizontally, but was divided into apartments: in one place with six flags, placed equidistant



distant from each other ; and were accessible above by means of a hole from another gallery : into the lower were two entrances (before the ruin of the other side there had been two others) above each of these entrances were a row of holes, running up to the top, divided by flags, appearing like shelves : near the top was a circle of projecting stones, which probably were intended to hold the beams that formed the roof : above is another hole like the former. None of these openings pass through, for there is not the least appearance of any window nor opening on the outside wall. All these holes are square ; are too small to admit the human body, so were probably designed to lodge arms, and different other matters, secure from wet or harm.

“ Over the first gallery was another, divided from it only by flags. This also went round, but was free from any separation : the height was five feet six ; only twenty inches wide at bottom. This was also covered with flags at top.

“ At a distance above, in the broken sides of the wall, was another hole ; but it seems too small for a gallery. The ascent was not safe, so could not venture up. The height was taken by a little boy, who scrambled to the top.

“ The entrance was a square hole, on the west side : before it were the remains of some building, with a narrow opening that led to the door. Almost contiguous to this entrance, or portico, was a circle formed of rude stones, which was called the foundation of the Druids houses. It probably was formed for some religious purpose. I was told there were many others of this kind scattered over the valley.

“ At less than a quarter of a mile distant from this, stands the second tower, on a little flat on the  
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the side of the hill. The form is similar, but the number of galleries differ: here are three; the lowest goes entirely round; but at the east end is an aperture now of a small depth, but once of such extent that the goats which sheltered in it were often lost: on that account the entrance is filled with stones. This is six feet high, four feet two inches broad, and flagged above and below.

" A second gallery was of the same height, but the breadth of the floor only three feet five.

" The third gallery was of such difficult access, that I did not attempt to get up: it was so narrow and low, that it was with difficulty that the child who climbed to it could creep through.

" The present height of this tower is only twenty four feet five inches; the diameter thirty; the thickness of the lower part of the wall twelve feet four.

" I could not perceive any traces of the winding stairs mentioned by Mr. Gordon: but as these buildings have suffered greatly since that gentleman saw them, I have no doubt of his accuracy.

" These were in all probability places of defence; but it is difficult to say any thing on the subject of their origin, or by what nation they were erected. They are called here *Caiséal Teilbáb*, or, the Castles of *Teilba*, built by a mother for her four sons, as tradition, delivered in this translation of four Erse lines, informs:

My four sons a fair clan,  
I left in the strath of one glen:  
My Malcomb, my lovely Chonil,  
My Telve, my Troddan.

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“ There had been two others, now totally demolished, and each named after her children. Mr. Gordon mentions others of this kind; one at Glendunin, two at Easter-Fearn, and two or three in Lord Reay's country; one of which is called the Dune of Dornadilla, from an imaginary prince, who reigned two hundred and sixty years before the Christian æra. This appears to be so well described by an anonymous writer in the Edinburgh Magazine, that it will possibly be acceptable to the reader to find it copied.

“ In the most northern part of Scotland, called Lord Reay's country, not far from Tongue, and near the head of the river which runs into the North Sea at Loch-Eribol, is the remains of a stone tower, which I apprehend to be a Druidic work, and to be the greatest piece of antiquity in this island. It is surprizing that it is so little known even to the natives of that country: I do not remember to have ever seen it mentioned by any book whatever, nor do I recollect whether Mr. Pennant has received any information concerning it. This tower is called by the neighbouring inhabitants, the Dune of Dornadilla. It is of a circular form, and now nearly resembling the frustum of a cone; whether, when perfect, it terminated in a point, I cannot pretend to guess; but it seems to have been formerly higher, by the rubbish which lies round it. It is built of stone, without cement, and I take it to be between twenty and thirty feet high still. The entrance is by a very low and narrow door, to pass through which one is obliged to stoop much; but, perhaps, the ground may have been raised much since the first erection.

“ When one is got in, and placed in the centre, it is open over head. All round the sides of the walls are ranged stone shelves, one above another,  
like

like the shelves in a circular beaufait, reaching from near the bottom to the top. The stones which compose these shelves are supported chiefly by the stones which form the walls, and which project all round just in that place where the shelves are, and in no others: each of the shelves is separated into several divisions, as in a book-case. There are some remains of an aukward stair-case. What use the shelves could be applied to I cannot conceive. It could not be of any military use from its situation at the bottom of a sloping hill, which wholly commands it. The most learned among the inhabitants, such as the gentry and clergy, who all speak the Irish language, could give no information or tradition concerning its use, or the origin and meaning of its name. But some years since I happened, at an auction of books in London, to look into a French book, containing Gaulish antiquities, and there I saw a print of the remains of a Druidic temple in France, which greatly resembles the tower I am speaking of, having like shelves in it. And, reading a late pamphlet on the antiquity of the Irish language, I think I can partly trace the origin of the name Dornadilla. At page 24, the author says, that *Dorn* means a *round stone*, so that *abdorn* would mean the round stone of the priests; *na* is *of*, and *Di* is *God*. At page 45, he says, in the last line, *ulla* means a *place of devotion*; so that *Dor-na-Di-ulla* will signify *the round stone place of the worship of God*; or perhaps it might allude to some round stone preserved within as a sacred emblem of divinity.

This shire has some mountains so high, that they are covered with snow all the year round. There is one clan in this shire called the Frasers, that never joins with the rest, because once the clan Ronald cut off so many of them, that if eighty gentlemen of them had not left their wives with



with child, the whole clan had been extinct. There were three peers of this clan, the Lords Lovat, Salton, and Fraser.

The chief places are,

*Chanterle*, or *Chanorie*, a market town, so called from the College of Canons Regular, which flourished there. It was the See of a Bishop, and had a stately cathedral, and a castle where the Bishop dwelt. Here the late Earl of Seaforth had a noble house.

The town, which is the seat of a Presbytery, stands on the peninsula betwixt the bay of Cromartie and Murray, among pleasant hills that are very fruitful, and has a ferry over the Firth into Murray. The great mountain Weeves lies to the north of it.

*Dingwall*, at the bottom of the Frith of Cromarty, is a market town, a royal burgh, and the seat of Presbytery. This Frith is capacious enough to contain all the fleets in Europe, land-locked, so that it would be of great advantage to us for victualling and cleaning our ships, in case of a war with any of the Princes in the Baltic.

*Fayne* is another market town, and a royal burgh. It is situate in a fruitful country, and the seat of a Presbytery. In the popish times here was a church dedicated to St. Dorothea, to which the people went in pilgrimage. It is tolerably well inhabited, and has a pretty good trade, by reason of its communication with the Western Islands, and for its herring fishery.

*Fochon*, is another royal burgh, with a castle belonging to the late Earl of Seaforth.

# The SHIRE of ROXBURGH,

O R

## ROSSBURGH, *alias* TEVIOTDALE.

**T**HIS is a sheriffdom, hereditary in the family of Douglas, who is called the Sheriff of Teviotdale, which name it owes to the river Teviot, that runs through it. It is divided into Teviotdale, Liddesdale, and Eusdale or Eskdale. The whole constituting that which is called in law-writings, the shire of Roxburgh; it is thirty miles from Riddingburn on the east to Annandale on the west, and fifteen in breadth, from the border to the Blue Cairn in Landermoor. It is bounded on the east with Northumberland; on the south-east with part of Cumberland; on the south and south-west with Annandale; on the west with Teviotdale; and on the north with the Merse and Lauderdale.

It is fruitful in pasturage and good corn, especially oats, of which great quantities are carried to England, and abounds with sheep, large black cattle and horses. It has many mountains, whereof the most eminent are at Calkrow, from which runs a tract of hills westward, dividing England from Scotland, and in many places passable. Some of them

them are very high, but furnished with excellent grafs, and they have plenty of lime and freestone.

The inhabitants have always been noted for a warlike people, and their county joining to England on dry marshes, was frequently the theatre of considerable actions, by which the Scots and Kerrs or Cars, as they write their names in Northumberland, the greatest families in this county, advanced themselves to great grandeur, for with the neighbouring shire of Berwick, they could raise ten thousand horse in twenty-four hours time.

Here are many ancient families of distinction, and gentlemens seats, which before the union were built in form of castles. On the borders of this shire, are those called the *Debatable Lands*, that were formerly claimed by the borderers of each nation; but after the union, adjudged to the Scots by King James VI.

The towns of chief note here are.

*Jedburgh*, a royal burgh, situate on the confluence of the Tefy and Jed, from the last of which it takes its name. It is a pretty large town, well inhabited and frequented, and the seat of a presbytery. It has a good market for corn and cattle, and an annual fair. Here is a handsome church and town-hall, where the sheriff keeps his courts. This was one of the towns that suffered in the rebellion of 1715, and its public buildings, bridges, streets and other works, were so much out of repair, that for these reasons, and for the inhabitants to erect work-houses, &c. for the manufacture of coarse wool, for which it is conveniently situate, an act was passed in 1720, imposing a duty of two pennies Scots upon every pint of Scots ale, &c. vendued within this town and its liberties, for the above purpose.

*Kelfo*, a burgh or barony, the seat of a presbytery, a great thoroughfare from Edinburgh to Newcastle, and a large beautiful town, pleasantly situate on the borders

borders of England, by the river Tweed. It has the best trade in this part of the country, and a very good market in a large square, with very handsome houses round it, some good streets and a parish church, the remains of an ancient abbey, founded for the Cistercian monks by King David I. The Duke of Roxburgh, who is Lord of the town, has a house in it, and a noble seat called Tebeus, with pleasant gardens, near the influx of the Teviot into the Tweed; and on both sides of the river, there are fine seats and gardens of persons of quality, which are a great ornament to the town; and the ruins of the ancient castle of Roxburgh, lies a mile to the north-west. There is a ford through the Tweed a little below the town. The Tweed does not pass England from Scotland at this place, it being Scots ground on this side of it for four miles at least; and the further west it runs, the wider is their territory on the same side.

*Melrofs* or *Mailrofs* is the seat of a presbytery, situate on the banks of the river Tweed, where an abbey was founded in the year 1136, and possessed by the Bernardine monks, so called from St. Bernard a Burgundian, who entering the monastery of Cistercians, proved so strict an observer of monastic discipline, that the regulars of the aforesaid order took their order from him.

*Bede* mentions it in his time as a monastery, says, the abbot of it being translated to Lindisfern, it was rebuilt or repaired by King David, after it had been ruined by the wars, during which it was sometimes in the hands of the Saxons, and at other times in the hands of the Scots. This occasioned the diversity, not to say contradiction in the English and Scots manuscripts of that history of Scots and English affairs, said to have been wrote by the monks of this abbey.

This



- This abbey appears by its ruins to have been one of the neatest and noblest in Europe. It is also noted for the sepulchral munuments of the great family of Douglas, and particularly James, called the *Black Douglas*, who died of his wounds at the battle of Otterburn, where the victory over the English was chiefly obtained by his personal valour. The great window over the great gate of the abbey, was larger than that of York Minster, and round the top, the statues of our Saviour and the twelve Apostles. The choir was an hundred and forty feet long. It had very great revenues, and a sheep walk for four miles, on the finest green downs in the world.

*Roxburgh*, was anciently a royal burgh, containing several parishes and schools; but by reason of the wars between the two nations, the castle was razed, the town ruined, and the royalty transmitted to Jedburgh.

The chief place in this shire is  
 Selkirk, from which the shire has its name. It is  
 a town of some importance, and the seat of the  
 sheriff. It is the seat of a Presbytery, and where  
 the sheriff keeps his courts. It has a very fine  
 town, several towers, and a handsome parish church.  
 The chief manufacture carried on here is in shoes  
 and boots.

## SHIRE of SELKIRK.

**T**HIS is also called the Sheriffdom of *Eltric-  
 Forest*, from the river Eltric that runs thro'  
 it, (which, with Yarrow and Gallawater, are the  
 principal rivers of the county) and from its being  
 formerly covered all over with woods, which were well  
 furnished with harts, hinds, and fallow-deer, but  
 now they are in a great measure destroyed. On  
 the north it is bounded partly by Tweeddale, and  
 partly by the regality of Stow in Mid-Lothian;  
 on the east and south by Teviotdale, and partly by  
 Annandale. It has mountains, which feed great  
 flocks of sheep and black cattle, with which they  
 maintain a good trade to England; and the vallies  
 on its rivers produce corn and hay. Mr. *Acbinson*  
 in a manuscript treatise of the metals of Scotland,  
 says, that in Glangeber Water in this shire, and  
 other places, pieces of gold have been found in  
 the shape of bird's eyes and eggs. Here are several  
 gentlemen's seats. Mr. *Camden* commends the  
 inhabitants for their frugality and sobriety, and  
 takes notice that their men are generally strong.

The chief place in this shire is

*Selkirk*, from which the shire has its name; it is a royal burgh, situate on the bank of the river Eltrick. It is the seat of a Presbytery, and where the sheriff keeps his courts. It has a weekly market, several fairs, and a handsome parish-church. The chief manufacture carried on here is in shoes and boots.

*Philiphaugh* and *Gallashiels*, are two other towns, which possess nothing remarkable enough to detain us.

## The SHIRE of STIRLING,

O R

## STIRVELING.

**I**T has part of Lennox and Clydesdale on the west; part of Clackmannanshire and the Forth on the east; Monteith on the north; and Lothian on the east and south-east. Some authors say it is twenty miles where longest, and twelve miles over where broadest. It abounds with corn, coals, black cattle, sheep, and horses, and is well supplied with salmon and other fish, by the Forth and other rivers. The south part is hilly, but that which lies upon the Forth is very fertile, and abounds with coal. The sheriffdom was hereditary in the family of the Earls of Linlithgow, till the last of them

them, forfeited it by his rebellion against King George I.

*Stirling*, the capital of the county, to which it also gives name, is a royal burgh, where the sheriff keeps his courts. The town stands upon the descent of a steep rock, at the foot of which there runs the Forth, and it takes its name from the Saxon word, *Ster*, which signifies a hill, and *Lin*, a water.

The situation of this town greatly resembles Edinburgh, with the castle on a hill, sloping down both sides. It is enclosed with a wall, except towards the north, where it is bounded with the river Forth, over which it has a stone bridge, with an iron gate, and four stately arches; and a little below it is an haven. The tide flows above seven or eight miles beyond the bridge, and ships of burden come up to it.

This town is ancient, and together with *Dumbarton* is the defence of the Lowlands against the Highlands, for, as it is properly observed, *Dumbarton* is the lock of the Highlands, and *Stirling-castle* keeps the key.

The Church is a spacious building, but not collegiate. It stands in the upper part of the town, and has a very high tower. There was formerly a church, or rather collegiate chapel, in the castle, and likewise a private chapel, or oratory, in the palace, for the royal family; but they have been long disused.

Joining to the church, on the top of the hill, is a very neat hospital for decayed merchants, after the manner of that at Dundee. It was founded by James Gowen, Merchant, and very richly endowed. His statue, as big as the life, is at the top of the gate, with an inscription from the 25th of St. Matthew, the 35th verse. And in the garden of this hospital



hospital is a pleasant bowling-green for the use of the gentlemen and merchants.

The castle is not so very difficult of access as that at Edinburgh, but is esteemed equally strong; for the works are able to mount more cannon, and there is a battery that commands the bridge, which is of the utmost importance, and seems to have been the main end and purpose for which it was erected. The walls and all the outworks, are so firm, that they seem in as good condition as if they had been lately built.

The rebels in the year 1745, summoned this castle and town to surrender. It was defended by that gallant old officer, Lord Blakeney, who answered, That he would defend the place to the last extremity, and that as he had lived, he was determined to die a man of honour. The town having surrendered to the rebels upon treaty, they again summoned the castle, but with no better success than before, on which they determined to form a regular siege against it, with all the artillery they were possessed of; but the King's forces coming to the relief of the castle, attacked the rebels, and drove them off the field.

The rebels (on the retiring of the King's forces to Linlithgow, to avoid the inclemency of the weather) returned to Stirling, and again summoned the castle; the General repeated what he had before told them. Upon this they began to erect two new batteries, one upon Gowan-hill, within forty yards of the castle, and one upon Lady's-hill, upon which they proposed to mount what battering cannon they had, viz. two eighteen pounders, two sixteen pounders, and three twelve pounders, and while this was doing, they continued firing upon the castle with small arms, which did little mischief, tho' at the same time it exposed their men extremely; and they suffered by the fire of the castle very severely,

severely, which put them more and more out of humour with the siege, to which the scarcity of provisions not a little contributed, and the arrival of the Duke of Cumberland at Edinburgh, who immediately sent forces to dislodge the enemy, obliged them to make a hasty retreat, having blown up a great magazine of powder and ball they had in the church of St. Ninian, and broke down the bridge to prevent the King's forces from pursuing them.

Here are many noble monuments of the amazing grandeur of the Scottish Kings, that are crumbling into dust. Here is a fine palace built by King James V. and a parliament-house superior to that of Westminster.

The palace and royal apartments are all in decay, and likely to continue so. This is at present also the fate of the palaces of Linlithgow, Falkland, Dunfermling, and all the other royal houses in Scotland, Holy-rood-house at Edinburgh excepted.

In the park adjoining to the castle were formerly large gardens. The figure of the walls and grass-plats is still plainly to be seen.

The park here is large and walled about, as most of the parks in Scotland are; but there is little or no wood in it. The Earls of Mar, of the name of Erskine, who claimed to be hereditary keepers of the King's children, and of this castle, had an house at the upper end of the town, very finely situated for prospect, but not for security, being too near the castle; for were the castle ever to suffer a close siege, and be vigorously defended, this house would run a great risque of being demolished on one side or other: besides this nearness to the castle makes the site more confused to the eye. The ruins of this house are still to be seen; from whence it appears

pears to have been a noble fabric, and worthy of a lord of the first rank.

From a pretty little flower garden upon one of the bastions on the north side of the castle, is a most agreeable prospect over the valley, and of the meanders, turnings, or reaches of the river Forth, which are extremely beautiful. They are so spacious, and return so near themselves with so regular and exact a sweep, that, it is said, the like to it is not to be seen in Britain, and, perhaps not in Europe, especially in so large a river. The Seine, indeed, between Paris and Roan, fetches a sweep something like these, and some miles longer; but then it is but one: whereas here are three double reaches, which make six returns together, and each of them above three Scots miles in length; and as the bows are almost equal for breadth, as the reaches are for length, it makes the figure complete. It is a truly admirable sight, and continues from a little below the great bridge at Stirling to Alloway, the seat of the Earls of Mar. The form of this winding may be conceived by the length of the way; for it is twenty-four miles from Stirling to Alloway by water, and hardly four miles by land.

One would think these large windings of the stream would very much check the tide; but, on the contrary, we found the tide of flood make up very strong under Stirling-bridge, though it does not flow above seven or eight miles farther: for the stream grows narrow apace, and the rapid current of all rivers in this country checks the tide, when it comes into narrow limits. The same is the case in the Tyne at Newcastle, and the Tweed at Berwick; in both of which, though the tide flows as strong in at the mouth of these rivers as in this, yet the navigation goes not near so far up.

There

There is a very considerable manufacture at Stirling for serges or shalloons, which they make and dye very well; nor has the English manufacture for shalloons broken in so much upon them, as it was apprehended it would. This manufacture is a great support to the poor people that are employed in it, who are thereby enabled to live very comfortably.

About half a mile from Stirling was the Abbey of Cambuskennet, the stones of which were carried away by the Earl of Mar, who was prior of it, but turned Protestant at the reformation, to build the palace before mentioned. King James III. lies buried near these ruins.

At *Bannockburn*, in its neighbourhood, there was a battle, the greatest that ever was fought betwixt the English and the Scots, wherein Edward the Second's vast army, the finest that England had ever sent out, was routed, and the King himself is said to have narrowly escaped in a boat. But how he could save himself in this manner (as *Camden* says) is a little beyond comprehension, there being no river near that had any boats in it, but the Forth, and then the King must have fled north, where it is certain he made his utmost expedition to England. He might indeed have made use of a boat at the Tweed, but that was at least fifty miles from the field of battle.

This place was also remarkable for the execrable murder of King James III. whose young son was by some discontented nobles worked up to this impious deed. But when his understanding ripened, he saw the action in its proper light, and was so greatly affected by it, that he did penance for it ever after, by constantly wearing an iron chain near his flesh.

*Falkirk* is a burgh or barony, of chief note for a great victory obtained here by the English and Scots



Scots who joined them, over General Wallace and others, who commanded the army that stood up for the defence of their country.

Some authors imagine this place was the capital of the Picts, because of large and ancient ruins in its neighbourhood, which others suppose to have been a Roman camp. By reason of anchors that have been found sometimes in the ground here, it is conjectured to have been formerly a port, but that the sea or Forth retired from this part, and gained ground on the other side, which is not very improbable, considering what marshes there are about the mouth of the neighbouring river.

In this neighbourhood is the Carron iron manufactory, in which several hundred men are employed, to the great advantage of the proprietors. Indeed the whole country wears a new face; manufactures flourish so much, that it bids fair to be the most populous shire in Scotland. The Carron works have three capital advantages, viz. iron-ore, coal, and a navigable river, by which means the company are enabled to hire ships which carry the goods of others as well as their own. Here large cannon are cast. A number of ordnance of this manufacture was sent as a present to the brave Paoli, the Corsican Chief, by the subscription of a number of friends to liberty in Scotland.

*Tor-wood* is in the neighbourhood of this town. It chiefly consists of firs and beech. The town of Stirling, nine miles off, being built like Edinburgh, on an hill, makes a fine appearance, from hence.

*Kilfyth* is a good plain country burgh, tolerably well built, but not large, near which the Marquis of Montrose gave a great overthrow to the covenanters in the civil wars.

*Calendar*

*Calendar-House* here, was the seat of the unhappy Earl of Kilmarnock, commander of the rebel hussars in 1745. It is an old building that has been some time in decay; but has on the back of it, upon an hill, a fine wood of firs. In the front is a vast space of level ground, the Forth keeping its course in the middle; and the great number of gentlemen's seats on either side the banks of the Forth, yields a noble prospect from hence. These houses are of white stone, the roofs covered with blue slate, which make an agreeable glittering when the sun shines upon them.

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## T H E

## SHIRE of SUTHERLAND.

**T**HIS shire, which includes Strathnaver, has Caithness to the east and north-east; the main ocean to the north; the county of Assynt to the west; Ross to the south; and the German Sea to the east and south east; and the whole is called the *Shire of Dornoch*, from its chief town. It extends fifty-five miles from east to west, and thirty-three from south to west, and has an area of two thousand three hundred and ten square miles.

The county is very hilly, but not so mountainous as Ross. It is fitter for breeding of cattle,

P

says

says *Camden*, than bearing of corn; yet others say it is fruitful both in corn and pasturage. It abounds with fish, wild-fowl, sheep, black cattle, and deer; and it is observed, that all the deer bred on the mountain Arkil, have forked tails. It has three remarkable forests, besides abundance of other woods, that afford hawks, and store of game, which the inhabitants are very fond of hunting. Here is plenty of iron-stone, and some pearls. They have free-stone, lime-stone, and good slate in abundance; it is said they also find some silver, and it is supposed in Duriness, or Dieriness, which is one of its divisions, there is gold.

Here are also hills of white marble, which, as Mr. *Camden* remarks, are uncommon in so cold a climate, and, as a proof that the climate and soil is much better than could be expected so far north, saffron grows in it very well. In several parts of the county there is much salmon-fishing, besides plenty of other fish. The vallies are very pleasant and well inhabited. It is said that no rats will live in this shire, though they swarm in Caithness, which is next to it. There is one sort of birds peculiar to this county, which the inhabitants call *Knag*; it much resembles a parrot, and digs its nest with its beak in the trunks of oak.

The western part of this shire is more mountainous and woody than the other. There is excellent beer in it, called Big. It has many rivers, which, though small, are full of fish, and make the vallies very fruitful. There are about sixty lakes here, that abound with fish and swans, ducks and geese, and other fowls of many kinds. The greatest is Loch-lyn, which is fourteen miles long. In many of them are islands, which in summer are very pleasant habitations. In short, this county is so full of bays, rivers, and lakes, that there is scarce

scarce a town in it but what is washed with salt or fresh water, and both its bays and coasts abound with seals, whales sometimes, salmon, and shell-fish of all sorts. It has many commodious harbours for exportation of their barley, salt, coal, salmon, beef, wool, skins, hides, butter, cheese, tallow, &c. and gives title of Earl to the chief of the noble family of Sutherland, who is its hereditary sheriff and admiral.

The north part, called *Strathnaver*, is separated from the rest by mountains, and bounded on the north by the Deucaledonian Ocean; on the west by the Virginian Ocean; on the east by Caithness; and by Assynt on the south; and is so called from the river Naver, which runs through it. It is thirty-four miles from east to west, and twelve from south to north, in some places. The snow lies a good while upon its high mountains. It has good harbours and many woods, and in some places there are iron works. They have great herds of black cattle, goats, sheep, and horses, and they carry their fat cattle, and their colts to their neighbouring fairs; but they export their salt-beef, hides, skins, tallow, butter, and cheese. Here is plenty of venison, and the inhabitants despise those who delight in hunting. It is observed, that the people of this and the neighbouring counties are courageous, frugal, capable of fatigue, civil to strangers, chearful and plain-hearted; but they live for most part in villages, the situation not admitting of towns. It has many lakes, the chief of which are Loch-navern, and Loch-lyol. On the north coast there are several islands and divers monuments of victories obtained against the Danes, that are dispersed up and down this county. It gives title of Lord to the eldest son of the Earl of Sutherland.

*Camden* calls this the utmost coast of all Britain, whose front looks all against the North Pole, having



ing the middle of the tail of the Urfa major directly over its head.

The day here in summer is computed at eighteen hours, i. e. the sun is said to be remaining so long above the horizon; and when he is set, he makes so small an arch of a circle above the horizon, that it is much more than twilight all the time it rises; but then it must be remembered, as it has been already noticed in the Orkney Islands, that the dark nights are altogether as long in the winter. It has been observed, however, that the winters here are more temperate in general than they are farther to the south, and that the water in some of the rivers, as the Ness, for instance, as is said, and as we have before observed, never freezes; which some naturalists ascribe to the salt vapours from the neighbouring sea, which, as it were, sheath the acute particles of the cold. To this reason it should be ascribed, that the snows are not so deep, nor so lasting on the ground as in other places.

In this, and many other parts of Scotland, the sheriffs were formerly bound by act of parliament, in their several sheriffdoms, to go a hunting thrice every year, to destroy their wolves and their whelps, but there have been none left for many years.

*Dornoch*, the chief town in this county, stands on the bank of the Frith, opposite to Teyn: it was formerly the see of a Bishop, and had a cathedral for the diocese of Caithness, where the Earls of Sutherland have their sepulchre. It is a royal burgh, and the seat of a Presbytery. It has four fairs every year, well frequented. On the east side is a monument in form of a cross, commonly called Thane's, or Earl's Cross; and not far from Eubo, there is a stone cross, which was erected as a monument of a King of the Danes, who was killed and buried there. King James IV. appointed the  
sheriff

Sheriff to reside here, and at Weik, as occasion should require.

*Dumobin*, is the seat of the Earl of Sutherland, it stands a mile hard by the sea, and is remarkable for its fine gardens, where saffron grows very well, and comes to maturity. It was built in 1100, by Robert Earl of Sutherland, and called after his name, the *Hall of Robin*.

*Brosa* is a burgh, or barony, at the mouth of a river of its own name; and in the island of Brosa, the Earl of Sutherland has another seat. In the neighbourhood are mines of excellent coal, and salt-pans, which afford great quantities for export, besides what they consume at home. There are several fairs in other towns of this county, the chief of which is St. Andrew's Fair at Godspey, near Dornoch.

## The SHIRE of WEIK,

O R

## CAITHNESS.

**I**T is called the shire of Weik, as it not only bounds upon, but was once a part of the shire of Sutherland. It is the most northern shire of all Scotland, has the ocean on the east; Strathnaver and Sutherland, from which it is divided by Mount Orde, and a range of hills as far as Knocklin, and by the river Hallowdale, on the south and south-west;

west; and on the north it is divided from the Orkney Islands by Pentland Frith. It comprehends all the country beyond the river Ness, and the loch into which it flows; and all the tract to the east of the mountain Orde was antiently called *Catey-ness*, and afterwards *Caithness*. It is about thirty-five miles from north to south, and about twenty in breadth. Here are a few woods, or rather coppice. In the forest of Moravins and Berridale, is great plenty of red deer and roebucks, and they have great store of cows, sheep, goats, and wild fowl. At Deroness there is lead, at Old Uske copper, and iron ore in several places; but grazing and fishing are the chief support of the inhabitants. In these parts the Catina dwelt in Ptolemy's time; and here are many foundations of ancient, but now ruinous houses, that are supposed to have formerly belonged to the Picts. Many obelisks have also been erected here and there, and in some places several together. The shire is much indented by the many windings and breakings of the shore. The whole coast, except the bays, consists of high rocks and many promontories, particularly Landside-head, at the west end of the shire, pointing north to the head of the bay, or Pentland Frith; Orcas, now Houborn, or Holborn-head, and Dirment-head, both pointing north to the Frith; Duncan's-bay in Dunsby-head, or John Groat's House the north-east point of Caithness, and the remotest promontory of Britain, where the Frith is but twelve miles over; over which is the ordinary ferry to Orkney, called Duncan's Bay; Noshead pointing north-east, and Clythness pointing east.

The sea here is very dangerous, even in calm weather, except at stated times, because of the many vortices owing to the repulse of the tide from the shore, and their passage betwixt the  
Orkney

Orkney Isles. The inland country is mountainous, but towards the coast it is low, and produces corn enough both for the natives and for exportation; but the soil being very moist and clayish, their harvest is late, and their corn not so good as that of Ross and Sutherland. Their firing is turf, for want of coal, yet all other necessaries are very cheap. There is plenty of pasture in the fields and vallies, with good fowling and hunting on the mountains, and fishing in their rivers and lakes, as well as the sea. The shire is also populous, and has many little towns and villages, with gentlemen's seats; but it is said of the people in general, that they are fonder of good cheer than good houses. Provisions, as corn, cattle, and fish, are so plentiful here, that it is said to be the cheapest market in the world, and that a man may live better on fifty pounds a year in this county, than he can in the South for two hundred.

There are several waters or rivers in this shire, but no large ones, and what trees they have are not so big as they are farther south. The rocks on the coast are much frequented by eagles, hawks, maws, herons, and fowls of various kinds, like those of Orkney and Zetland. They take the young young fowls from their nests in the rocks, by letting down a hook and line. There is a particular sort of fowls called *Snowfleets*, which resort to this country in February, by thousands in a flight. They come, as it is supposed, from the Western Islands, and go away again in April. They are about the bigness of a sparrow, but exceedingly fat and delicious to eat. They have also great plenty of moor fowls and plovers, and perhaps more than in any part of Scotland. The people here are so industrious, that in some places, particularly from Weik to Dunbeth, which is twelve miles in length, there is no harbour, but one



one continued tract of rugged hard rocks; yet they have formed several harbours by art, and made passages in many places, like steps or stairs, from the top of the rock to the bottom, where their fishing-boats are; and at the top of these rocks they have huts made for the purpose, to which they carry up the fish, and there salt and dry them for market; where some owners make as much money of their flesh as others do of their land.

Here are several old chapels like those in Orkney and Zetland; the nest-eggs of Popery are much frequented by the weak and ignorant people; and besides these, there are heaps of stones, supposed to be the reliques of Paganism, to which the people came with adoration, and always brought something over to make an addition.

The two principal towns in this county are, *Weik* or *Weich*, and *Thurso*.

*Weik*, is a royal burgh, and a market town, where the head courts are kept. It is situate on the east side of the county, at the mouth of Murray Frith, where it falls into the German Ocean, and has a tide harbour for small vessels; but it is not so much frequented, because it is thought not so safe as another about a mile to the north-east.

*Thurso*, lies opposite to the west side of the shire, and is so defended by Holborn-head, that it is a secure place for ships of any burden to ride in. Though it is only a burgh or barony, it is the seat of the judges, is more populous, and better built than *Weik*, and their church is said to be the best in the county. A small river runs by the east side of it, called the Water of Thuro, in which there is good fishing for salmon, which keep in this river all the year long, so that it is said, they are to be had even in the winter season, by breaking the

the ice. They take several horse-loads at a time, either by going into the water with nets, or by the convenience of creeks with barred doors, carried from one side of the water to the other, and so made to let in the fish, and there to keep them. At one draught of the net they sometimes take above three hundred good salmon.

At *Screbister* the Bishops used to reside; and in *Screbister Bay*, a little to the north-west of this place, is a good anchoring ground, where ships may ride safely.

*Rice-Bay*, on the east side of the county, next to *Weik*, is two or three miles broad, but of dangerous access, because of the blind rocks at the entrance of it. At the bottom of the bay, at the south side of it, are the ruins of two strong castles, once the seat of the Earl of Caithness, called *Castle Sinclair* and *Iemego*, joined to one another by a draw-bridge, though by some supposed to have been but only one.

In *Weik Parish* is *Stony-hill*, which is said to have had its name from the following execution and castration, *Buchanan* says, "In the year 1199, *Harold*, Earl of *Orkney* and *Caithness*, was so exasperated against the Bishop of this country, for having insinuated something against the then King *William*, that he apprehended him, cut out his tongue, and put out his eyes; which being represented to the King, he sent forces to *Caithness*, which having defeated the Earl, he was pursued, apprehended, his eyes put out, and then he was hanged, and all his male children emasculated upon this hill, which has ever since been called *Stony-hill*.

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## The SHIRE of WIGTOUN,

O R

## UPPER GALLOWAY,

**E**XTENDS from the Water of Cree on the east, to the point called the Mull of Galloway, in the Irish Sea, comprehending the west part of Galloway, and the regality of Glenshire. It is about twenty-four miles from east to west, and the same from north to south, but is much indented by Loch Rian, and the Bay of Glencuce, on the north and south sides. *Galloway* in general is so called from the *Gauls*, from whom the ancient inhabitants descended. This, which is the most western district, runs out with a peninsula so far into the Irish Sea, that Ireland may be seen from the utmost extent of it, as plain as Calais is from Dover. All on the north side of it is called the Firth of Clyde, though it is near fifty miles from that river; so that all the bay on the south side may be reckoned Solway Firth.

It is a hilly country, fitter for breeding of cattle than of bearing corn. The inhabitants not only follow fishing in the sea, but in the rivers and loughs that lie every where under the hills; in which, about the middle of September, they  
catch

catch an infinite number of eels, whereby it is said they get much profit; as they do also by their hardy *Punch Pads*, called Scots Galloways. Though the people have been blamed for not falling into commerce, because there are several good harbours on the coast, yet they are not idle, for they are great husbandmen, and great breeders of cattle. Galloway had anciently its own Princes and Lords; but now it is an Earldom in the family of the Stewarts.

*Wigtoun* is the capital of the shire, a market town, a royal burgh, the place where the sheriff holds his courts, and the seat of a Presbytery. It lies near a mouth of a river, in a bay of its own name, where it is eleven miles long and eleven broad. It is a pretty good port, though not near so good as Kirkudbright, on the same coast. It has a very narrow entrance between the two streams of Braidnos and Crea; but is otherwise well situated for an Emporium, especially for the Plantation trade.

*Whitberne* is supposed by *Camden* to be the episcopal See of Galloway, which *Bede* calls *Candida Gasa*, and the English and Scots, *Whitberne*, the latter part of which name signifies *Vessel*, in the same sense as the word *Inkborn*, is called *Inkern*. The founder of the see, called St. Ninian, who was a Briton, built a church here, which was dedicated to St. Martin, the form whereof, *Bede* says, was different from that of the British structures. The town lies on the bank of a bay, is a royal burgh, and a market town, and had formerly a noble priory.

Having thus gone through the several shires in an alphabetical order, we now proceed to give a particular description of the



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## H E B R I D E S, O R

### The WESTERN ISLANDS.

**T**HESE islands are very numerous, and said to make one third part of the kingdom; however, they are so considerable a part of it, that King Robert Bruce, a wise and gallant Prince, being on his death-bed, when his son was under age, advised his nobles not to let any one man have the government of them all. The inhabitants in general speak the Erse language, and retain the manners, customs, and habits of the ancient Scots, as the Highlanders do on the continent.

The inhabitants of these islands had formerly no commerce nor manufacture, and consequently was very poor, but lived contented in a state of nature. The name of the highest dignity is Laird, whose power is great, and has all those under his hand who live upon his farms, as their chief support is by agriculture. But a few years have passed since the Lairds could command a numerous clan to act according to his dictates, and tell them to whom they should be friends or enemies,  
what

what Kings they should obey, and what religion they should profess.

Next to the Lairds are the Tacksmen, who farm the estates of the Lairds, and lets them out again to the tenants; the Tacksman in some parts is said to pay six-pence an acre for land, for which he receives ten-pence. The only gentlemen in these islands are the Lairds, Tacksmen, and the Ministers. Of tenants there are different orders, as they possess greater or lesser stocks. Land is sometimes leased to a small fellowship, who live in a cluster of huts, called a Tenants Town, and are bound jointly and separately for the payment of the rent; these are said to employ a number of inferior tenants, who having a hut, and graze for a certain number of cows and sheep, pay their rent by a stipulated quantity of labour.

The inhabitants begin now to shew a dawn of polishment, and their life, which was formerly purely pastoral, with a blind subordination to their chief, is somewhat varied. The domestic servants had not, nor have now, but in wealthy families, any pecuniary wages; the maids had sheep, and are allowed to spin for their own cloathing; though the chiefs are divested of great part of their prerogatives, yet still in many of the smaller islands, there is no legal officer, and if a crime is committed, the offender is seized, and the Laird executes his right.

The habitations in the Hebrides, are distinguished by huts or houses. By a *house*, a building is meant with one stone above another; by a *hut*, a dwelling with only one floor. The houses are small, and the rooms not very cleanly, and filled with an heterogenous mixture of goods and stores, &c.

Huts are of many gradations; from musky dens to commodious dwellings.

“The

“ The wall of a common hut (says Dr. *Johnson*) is always built without mortar, by a skilful adaptation of loose stones. Sometimes, perhaps, a double wall of stones is raised, and the intermediate space filled with earth. The air is then completely excluded, some walls I think are formed of turf, and then held together by a wattle, or texture of twigs. Of the meanest huts, the first room is lighted by the entrance, and the second by the round hole. The fire is usually made in the middle. But there are huts of only one story, inhabited by gentlemen, which have walls cemented with mortar, glass windows, and boarded floors. Of these all have chimnies, and some chimnies have grates.

“ The house and the furniture are always *nicely* suited. We were driven once, by missing a passage, to the hut of a gentleman, where, after a very liberal supper, when I was conducted to my chamber, I found an elegant bed of India cotton, spread with fine sheets. The accommodation was flattering; I undressed myself, and felt my feet in the mire. The bed stood upon the bare earth, which a long course of rain had softened into a puddle.”

The petty tenants and labouring peasants, live in miserable cabins, which will scarce shelter them from the storms. The poor of Norway is said to make all his own utensils. In the Hebrides, whatever might be their ingenuity, the want of wood leaves them no materials. They are probably content with such accommodations as stones of different forms and sizes can afford them.

Their food is like their lodging. They seldom taste any animal food, and each man eats from his own stock. Fish they have great plenty of; their fuel is peat, which is dug out of the marshes, from the depth of one foot to six. That is reckoned  
the

the best which is the nearest the surface. This they cut into square pieces, and pile it up beside the house to dry.

The chief method of grinding their oats is a sort of hand mill, though there are water mills in Sky and Rayfa. This mill consists of two stones, about a foot and an half in diameter, the lower is a little convex, to which the concavity of the upper must be fitted. In the middle of the upper stone is a round hole, and on the side is a long hurdle. The grinder sheds the corn gradually into the hole with one hand, and works the handle with the other. The corn slides down the convexity of the lower stone, and by the motion of the upper, is ground in its passage. These stones are found in Lochabar.

Brogues are still in use in some parts. They are a kind of artless shoes, stitched with thongs so loosely, that though they defend the feet from stones, they do not exclude the water,

Brogues were formerly made of raw hides, with the skin outwards; but they are now made of leather tanned with oak bark, or with birch bark, or the roots of toronantil. In the islands the plaid is but rarely worn, the fillibeg, or lower garment, is still very common, and the bonnet is almost universal. The weather in the winter is chiefly rain or wind, and their frosts have seldom power enough to freeze over their salt loughs, or inlets of the sea.

Their native bread is made of oats and barley; of the oatmeal they make their cakes, which are very coarse and hard, and not palatable to a stranger. The barley cakes are thicker and softer. They have also in the best families wheaten bread, but as they have neither yeast nor leaven, their bread of every kind is unfermented. They make only cakes, and never mold a loaf.

They



They have plenty of wild fowl, but their geese, by feeding in the sea, have a fishy rankness; they are of a middle race between the wild and domestic kinds. The usual method with the men in these islands is as soon as they rise to swallow a glass of whisky for their morning dram, which they call a *Skalk*. The word *whisky* signifies water, and is applied by way of eminence to *strong water*, or distilled liquor. This spirit is drawn from barley, and is said by Dr. Johnson to be preferable to any English malt brandy. It is strong, but not pungent, and free from the empyreumatic taste or smell. After this dram they proceed to their breakfast, in which they are said to excel us. They accompany their tea and coffee, not only with butter, but with honey, conserve, and marmalade; but in some parts of the island they pollute the tea tables by plates piled up with large slices of Cheshire cheese, which mingles its less grateful odours with the fragrance of the tea. Their dinner is little different from an English one, except that in the place of tarts there are always set different preparations of milk. Their supper varies not from the variety and plenty of their dinner. The table is always covered with elegant linen. Silver is used on all occasions. The knives, which are neither bright nor sharp, were not regularly laid on the table, before the prohibition of the use of arms and change of dress. Thirty years ago the Highlander wore his knife as a companion to his dirk or dagger, and when the company set down to meat, the company who had knives, cut the flesh into small pieces for their women, who, with their fingers, conveyed it to their mouths.

There are a number of streams or fresh lakes in these islands, which abound with trout and eel, the latter of which, together with pork and bacon,

is held in abhorrence by the natives, especially those of the Isle of Sky. The beasts of prey are foxes, otters, and weazels, all of which are of a larger stature than those of England. Though here are mountains, we do not hear of any subterraneous treasures that have been discovered. One of the rocks in Col has a black vein, imagined to consist of the ore of lead; but it was never yet opened or assayed. In Sky a black mass was accidentally picked up, and brought into the house of the owner of the land, who found himself strongly inclined to think it a coal, but unhappily it did not burn. It is supposed some valuable species of marble might be discovered if they were to use a little pains.

The inhabitants have lately formed a manufacture considerably lucrative. Their rocks abound with kelp, a sea plant, of which these ashes are melted into glass. They burn kelp in great quantities, and they send it away in ships, which come regularly to purchase them. This new trade has excited a long and eager litigation between Macdonald and Macleod, for a ledge of rocks, which, till the value of kelp was known, neither of them desired the reputation of possessing.

Their cattle are of a middling size, and sell from two to three pounds a head. They go from the islands very lean, and are not offered to the butcher till they have been long fatted in English pastures; among their black cattle are some without horns, called by the natives, *Humble Cows*. Their horses are like their cows, of a moderate size. In Barra and in Rum their horses are very little, which is attributed to their pecuniary sustenance, and the little care that is taken of them.

The goats are here in plenty, and both them and the sheep are milked like the cows. A night's measure of a goat yields a quart, and of a sheep a pint. The

R

people

people of St. Kilde form small cheeses of the milk of their sheep. The stags of the mountains are less than those of our parks and forests, their flesh not inferior to our venison; they are not chased with hound and horn as in England, but the sportsman watches the animal, gun in hand, and when he has wounded him, traces him by the blood. There are few or no rats or mice, but their place is amply supplied by the weazel, whose existence there perhaps, may be the reason of the small numbers of the other species.

The inhabitants of the Hebrides are of a middle stature; the features of the women rather rough, by the inclemency of the weather, and their method of living. The men are very active, but are not very fond, or not able, to undergo a long continuance of hard labour, and are therefore considered as habitually idle.

Although in the Hebrides are many superstitious notions, yet they are almost all dispelled through the vigilance of the ministers. The Romish religion is professed only in Egg and Canna, two small islands, into which the reformation never made its way. Martin mentions the respect for one Brownny, whom they supposed a sturdy fairy; who, if fed, and kindly treated, would, as they say, do a great deal of work. This is now greatly laid aside.

It was also a custom within this three and thirty years, in Troda, to put milk every Saturday for Greogarch, or *the Old Man with the long Beard*. This has likewise been abolished by the minister of that place, but they still have a great number of charms, and invocations, the reliques of ancient Popery. They form great pretensions to the gift of second sight, and pretend to foretel and see visionary scenes of what will happen.

Every

Every great family is said to have formerly had its Bard and Senachi, who were the poet and historian of the house. The last word signifies *the Man of Talk*, or of *Conversation*. The arms of the natives were anciently the *Glaimore*, or great two-handed sword, and afterwards the two-edged sword and target, or buckler, which was sustained on the left arm. In the midst of the target, which was made of wood, covered with leather, and studded with nails, a slender lance of about two feet long, was sometimes fixed. It was heavy and cumbrous, and accordingly has for some time past been gradually laid aside. The dirk, or broad dagger was of more use it is thought in private quarrels than in battles. The Lochabar ax is only a slight alteration of the old English bill.

There are many castles in the Hebrides, which are yet standing, and many ruins. These castles were always built upon points of land, on the margin of the sea. Dr. *Johnson* describes them as follows :

“ They consist only of single towers, of three or four stories, of which the walls are sometimes eight or nine feet thick, with narrow windows, and close winding stairs of stone. The top rises in a cone, or pyramid of stone, encompassed by battlements. The intermediate floors are sometimes frames of timber, as in common houses, and sometimes arches of stone, or alternately stone and timber ; so that there was very little danger from fire. In the centre of every floor, from top to bottom, is the chief room, of no great extent, round which there are narrow cavities, or recesses, formed by small vacuities, or by a double wall. I know not whether there be any more than one fire-place. They had not capacity to contain many people or much provision ; but their enemies could seldom stay



stay to blockade them; for if they failed in the first attack their next care was to make their escape.

“The walls were always too strong to be shaken by such desultory hostilities; the windows were too narrow to be entered, and the battlements too high to be scaled. The only danger was at the gates, over which the wall was built with a square cavity, not unlike a chimney, continued to the top. Through this hollow the defendants let fall stones upon those who attempted to break the gate, and poured down water, perhaps scalding water, if the attack was made with fire. The castle of Lochbuy was secured by double doors, of which the outer was an iron grate.

“In every castle is a well and a dungeon. The use of the well is evident. The dungeon is a deep subterraneous cavity, walled on the sides and arched on the top, into which the descent is through a narrow door, by a ladder, or a rope, so that it seems impossible to escape, when the rope or ladder is drawn up. The dungeon was, I suppose, in war, a prison for such captives as were treated with severity, and, in peace, for such delinquents as had committed crimes within the Laird’s jurisdiction; for the mansions of many Lairds were, till the late privation of their privileges, the halls of justice to their own tenants.

“As these fortifications were the productions of mere necessity, they are built only for safety, with little regard to convenience, and with none to elegance or pleasure. It was sufficient for a Laird of the Hebrides, if he had a strong house, in which he could hide his wife and children from the next clan. That they are not large nor splendid is no wonder. It is not easy to find how they were raised, such as they are, by men who had no money, in countries where the labourers and artificers could  
scarcely

scarcely be fed. The buildings in different parts of the islands shew their degrees of wealth and power. I believe that for all the castles which I have seen beyond the Tweed, the ruins yet remaining of some of these which the English built in Wales, would supply materials."

Having thus given the best general description of their islands we could gather, we shall next proceed to describe the most remarkable of them, in the following order :

*Alisa*, or *Ailfa*, *Islesay*, a steep uninhabited rock, of an amazing height, which from the edges of the precipice assumes a pyramidal form, the whole circumference of the base is two miles, on the east side is a stupendous and amazing assemblage of precipitous columns or rocks of great height, rising in wild series, one above the other. Beneath them, amid the ruins that have fallen from time to time, are groves of elder trees, the only trees to be found there, the rest of the surface being almost covered with fern and short grass : It is greatly noted for the vast number of wild-fowl which resort here ; the quadrupeds that inhabit this rock are goats and rabbits. On the verge of the precipice, dwell the gannets and shags, beneath are the guillemetes and razor-bills : and under them are the grey gulls and kittikaws. The puffins and sea-pies are also here, and some land birds, as ravens, hooded crows, pigeons, wheatears and rock-larks.

The rock belongs to the Earl of Cassils, who rents it for thirty-three pound per annum, to people who come here to take the young gannets for the table ; and the other birds for the sale of their feathers. The best are caught when the young are ready to take flight, they are taken by means of a long rod furnished at the end with a short hair line, and a running noose, which is flung down over the neck of the

the bird, and hooked up, and repeated, till ten or twelve dozen are taken.

On the beach are the ruins of a chapel, and here the fishermen have tents to reside in during the season for the capture of cod, i. e. from January to April. Higher up, on a difficult ascent, stands the castle, a square tower of three stories, each vaulted. Within a hundred yards of the place, is a spring of fine water. On the top was a small chapel, which was designed for devout seamen to offer up their prayers or thanksgiving, either against or for the deliverance from the dangers of the sea.

*Cumra*, the greater and the less, are two islands situate betwixt Bute and Cunningham. The longest, which is about a mile in length, is fruitful in corn; and the lesser abounds with deer. The first was remarkable for its church dedicated to St. Columbine, and at present for the quantities of beautiful free stone; and the first has abundance of rabbits,

*Cormay, isle*, has a fine harbour to anchor in, which is formed on the north by Carmay, on the south by the little isle of Sanda: The mouth lies opposite to Rum, and about three miles distant. The length of the island is about three miles: the breadth near one, the surface hilly, it was once the property of the bishop of the isles, but at present of Mr. MacDonald of Clan-Renald.

This island has a fertile appearance, being covered with verdure, and plenty of cattle feeding on it, but the inhabitants are poor. The cattle are of a middle size, black, long-legged, and have thin hairy maines from the neck along the back, and up part of the tail; they look well, as they have good warm recesses to retreat to in winter. They export about sixty head annually; here are but few sheep, but a great number of horses: The chief use of them in this little district is to form an annual cavalcade at Michaelmas, of which Mr. Pennant gives  
the

the following account : " Every man in this island mounts his horse unfurnished with saddle, and takes behind him either some young girl, or his neighbour's wife, and then rides backwards and forwards from the village to a certain cross, without being able to give any reason for the origin of this custom. After this procession is over, they alight at some public house, when, strange to say, the females treat the companions of their ride. When they return to their houses, an entertainment is prepared with primeval simplicity, the chief part is a great oat-cake, called *Struan-Micbeil*, or St. Michael's Cake, composed of two pecks of meal, and formed like the quadrant of a circle ; it is daubed over with milk and eggs, and then placed to harden before the fire.

They marry here very young, the youths at twenty, and the lasses at seventeen years of age, and matrimony is held in such respect, that an old maid or an old batchelor is scarcely known there. The women are treated herewith tenderness, and chiefly employed in domestic affairs, and not forced to labour in the field.

They have plenty of poultry and eggs, a very advantageous fishing of cod and ling might be established here, there being a sand bank between this isle and the rock, *Heisker*, and another between Skie and Barra ; but the poverty of the inhabitants will not enable them to attempt a fishing.

All the cloathing is manufactured at home ; the women not only spin the wool, but wear the cloth, the men make their own shoes, tan the leather with the bark of willow, or the roots of the tormentil, and in defect of wax thread, use leather thongs.

The islands Rum, Muck and Egg form one parish, Carmay has about two hundred souls in it, almost all of which are Roman Catholics, there is neither church,



church, manse, nor school in the whole parish, but a catechist in this island who has nine pounds a-year from the royal bounty. The minister and Popish priests live at Egg, but as the seas are often turbulent, they seldom are able to attend their flocks; though it is probable a Popish priest formerly resided here, as the ruins of a chapel and a small cross are still to be seen.

*Humbla*, near here is a lofty slender rock that gets into the sea, it has a little tower on one side, at a vast height, to which a narrow and horrible path leads, it is said to be so small as to contain scarce half a dozen people, and to have been built by some jealous person to confine a handsome wife in.

*Cairnbeg-mere*, is noted for its ancient fortress, or outguard to the Sudereys, or southern Hebrides. It was formerly called *Kiarnaburgh* or *Biarnaburgh*, and in the year 1249, Acno of Norway, King of the Hebrides, entrusted the defence of it to Jon Dungadi, who declined to surrender it to Alexander II. of Scotland, who meditated the conquest of these islands, the Macleans possessed it in 1715, and it was taken and retaken many times during the rebellion.

*Colonsay Isle*, is about twelve miles long, three broad, full of rocky hills, running transversely, with variety of pretty meandering vales, full of grass, and most excellent for pasturage, even the hills have plenty of herbage mixed with the rock. The valleys want enclosures and woods, they yield Bear and potatoes, the first of which is greatly used for distillation, to the detriment of the islanders, who are obliged to import meal for their subsistence: They export annually about three hundred head of cattle, at three pound each. They sow oats here about the middle of April, and produce great quantities of bear, kelp is also made in this island.

*Colonsay*

Colonsay is divided from Oronsay by a narrow sound at low water. The soil is good, they have plenty of limestone, and a sufficient quantity of peat. The sea abounds with fish, but the distressed state of the inhabitants prevents them from enriching themselves so much by all these advantages as they might do, if their poverty was not so great.

The old inhabitants of this and Oronsay Islands, were the Macduffs and Macvierechs. It has been in the possession of the Argyle family, who sold it to an ancestor of the present proprietor, Macniel, about sixty years ago. Here is chain of small lakes, called Loch-fad; two great erect stones, monumental, at Cit-chattan, and a ruined chapel.

*Cit-Oran*, is the seat of the proprietor, Mr. Macneil; his house is well sheltered, and trees grow very vigorously in its neighbourhood. Here are great plenty of rabbits, of which a hundred and twenty dozen are exported annually. Vast flocks of barnacles appear here in September, and quit the island the latter end of April or beginning of May.

Peacocks are found to thrive so far North; but neither frogs, toads, vipers, or any kind of serpent is found here. Rock stone formed of glimmer and quartz, and an imperfect granite are also to be met with.

*Coll*, is another isle, about half a mile north-east of Caninbeg. It is computed to be about thirteen miles in length, and three in breadth. Both the ends are the property of the Duke of Argyle, but the middle belongs to Maclean, who is called *Coll*, as the only Laird.

This isle may be said to be one continued rock, of a surface much diversified with rotuberances, and covered with a thin layer of earth, which is not fit for plants to strike deep roots in, therefore they are not very high. The uncultivated parts

are clothed with heath; among which are interspersed spots of grass and corn.

Coll has many lochs, some of which have trouts and eels, and others have yet never been stocked. Their quadrupedes are horses, cows, and sheep. They have neither deer, hares, nor rabbits. They have no vermin, except rats, which have lately been brought thither by sea, and are free from serpents, frogs, and toads.

The harvest in Coll and in Lewis is ripe sooner than in Sky, and the winter in Coll is never cold, but very tempestuous. The island is populous, and the inhabitants chiefly supply their own necessities. In every house candles are made, both moulded and dipped. Their weiks are small shreds of linen cloth. They all know how to extract from the cuddy-fish oil from their lamps; and they all tan skins and make brogues.

The proprietor of this island is a branch of the family of Maclean, who has a neat new house near the old castle of Coll. This castle is built upon a rock, and was the mansion of the Laird till the house was erected. The house is built upon a rock, is very strong, and having not long been inhabited, is yet in repair. On the wall, not many years ago, was a stone, with an inscription, importing, that, "If any man of the Clan of Maclonich shall appear before this castle, though he come at midnight, with a man's head in his hand, he shall there find safety and protection against all but the King."

This is an old Highland treaty, made upon a very remarkable occasion, of which Dr. *Johnson* gives the following relation:

"Maclean, the son of John Gerves, who recovered Coll, and conquered Barosa, had obtained it, is said, from James the Second, a grant of the lands of Lochiel, forfeited, by some offence against the State.

" Forfeited

“ Forfeited estates were not in those days quietly resigned ; Maclean, therefore, went with an armed force to seize his new possessions, and I know not for what reason, took his wife with him. The Camerons rose in defence of their Chief, and a battle was fought at the head of Loch-ness, near the place where Fort Augustus now stands, in which Lochiel obtained the victory, and Maclean, with his followers, was defeated and destroyed.

“ The lady fell into the hands of the conquerors, and being found pregnant, was placed in the custody of Maclonich, one of a tribe or family, branched from Cameron, with orders, if she brought a boy, to destroy him, if a girl, to spare her.

“ Maclonich’s wife, who was with child likewise, had a girl about the same time at which Lady Maclean brought a boy, and Maclonich, with more generosity to his captive, than fidelity to his trust, contrived that the children should be changed.

“ Maclean being thus preserved from death, in time recovered his original patrimony ; and in gratitude to his friend, made his castle a place of refuge to any of the clan that should think himself in danger ; and as a proof of reciprocal confidence, Maclean took upon himself and his posterity, the care of educating the heir of Maclonich.”

*Egg*, lies not far from Coll, is about three miles in length, and a mile and a half in breadth, and the whole pretty good for pasturage and cultivation. On the south-end of it is a mountain, and on the top of that an high rock, of about one hundred and fifty paces in circumference, with a fresh water-pool in the middle of it ; there is only one pass up to it, so that it is a natural fort ; on the south-west side of the  
isle



isle is a cave, capable of containing some hundreds of people; and there are several medicinal wells in this island. The proprietors of this island are some of the Macdonals; the inhabitants are mostly papists.

*Mull-Island*, lies in the shire of Argyle, and for extent is about one third of the Hebrides. It is one solid and encompassed mass, of breadth nearly equal to its length; here is a fine circular basin called Tober Maire bay, which is formed by this island on one side, and Calve isle on the other. It takes its name from a chapel and well dedicated to St. Mary. Here in 1588 the Florida, one of Philip's invincible armada, was blown up, after the dispersion of the fleet; some say by accident, others by the desperate resolution of a Scotchman. Several attempts were made to recover the sunk treasure, one in 1688, by William Sacheverel, Esq. by means of diving bells, with which he succeeded so far, as it is said to have got up much treasure. Mr. Pennant had a piece of the wreck given him by an old inhabitant of the place, to be preserved in memory of this signal providence, so beautifully acknowledged by Queen Elizabeth, in the medal struck on this occasion.

#### Afflavit Deus & Dissipantur.

The Earl of Argyle, in 1686, may be said to have wrecked both life and fortune, having made his first landing here with a few friends, in his fatal invasion in concert with the Duke of Monmouth. A little farther north is

*Bloody Bay*, so called from the sea fight between a Macdonald of the Isles, and his son. The former was supported by Hector Othar Maclean, the same who died gloriously at the battle of Flodden, covering his Monarch, James IV. from the arrows of the English archers.

*Dunangal,*

*Dunangal*, is a ruined castle of the Macleans, which is situate on the opposite shore of Morvern, the celebrated county of Fingal, which was gar- risoned by a small number of the rebels in 1719, but surrendered on its being attacked by one of our men of war.

*Mull*, is divided into three great parishes, Tnacy, Ross, and Kilmore, or Kalkinian. It is generally rocky and barren, and grows not corn enough for the inhabitants, it was part of the dominions of the Lords of the Isles, afterwards in the possession of the Macleans, who still retain half; the other is the litigated property of the Duke of Argyle, whose ancestor possessed himself of it in 1674 on account of a debt.

*Demstaffage Castle*, before-mentioned, is the place from whence the ancient chair for the coronation of the Scottish Kings was removed to Scone.

The castle is square; the inside only eighty-seven feet, partly ruinous, partly habitable; at three of the corners are round towers, one of them projects very little; the entrance is towards the sea, at present by a stair-case; the masonry appears very ancient, the tops battlemented; this pile is seated on a rock, whose sides have been pared to render it precipitous and conformable to the shape of the castle.

This castle was possessed in the year 1307, by Alexander Mac Dougal, a friend to the English; but was that year reduced by Robert Bruce, when Mac Dougal sued for peace with that prince, and was received into favour.

About the year 1455, it appears to have been the residence of the Lords of the Isles; for here James, last Earl of Douglas, fled to Donald, and prevailed on him to take up arms, and carry on a plundering war against King James the Second.

There

There is a chapel at a small distance from the castle, which was once an elegant building, but is now in ruins; at one end is an inclosure, or family cemetery; opposite to these is a high precipice, ending abrupt, and running suddenly toward the south east; a person concealed in the recess of the rock, a little beyond the angle, surprises friends stationed at some distance beneath the precipice with a very remarkable echo of any word, or even sentence he pronounces, which reaches the last distinct and unbroken; the repetition is single, but remarkably clear.

*Connel*, or *Confburl*, i. e. the raging flood; it takes its name from a furious cataract of salt water at the ebb of spring tides; this is occasioned by the discharge of the waters of Lochetive at this place into the sea; the fall is near ten feet, formed as a narrowing contraction of the jutting out of the rock.

This water, which runs far up the country, and receives the water of Lochraw at Bunow, has at times a considerable salmon-fishing; at a distance on the northern bank is Ard Chattaun, a priory of monks of Vallis Caulium, founded in the year 1230, by Duncan Maccoul, ancestor of the Macdougals, of Lorn.

*Dun-mac-Sniockian*, is about a mile from Connel. It is said to be the ancient Beregonium, or Beregonum, founded by Fergus II. Along the top of the beach is a raised mound, the defence against a sudden landing, stiled from the idea of its having been a city *Straid a Mbargai*, or market-street, within this is two rude erect columns, about six feet and an half high, and nine in girth; behind these a peat moss: on one side a range of low hills, at whose nearest extremity is an entrenchment called *Dun-valiere*. On the western side of the hill is an oblong insulated hill, on whose summit the country people







people say there had been seven towers. Near this hill is a Druidical circle, formed of round stones, placed close together; the area is twenty-six feet in diameter, and about ten feet distant from the outside, is an erect pillar, seven feet high.

*Staffa Isle*, lies in the midst of the waves on the west of Mull, and rises to the view with beautiful glossy and resplendent columns, double the height of those that compose the giant's-causeway in Ireland. The particular account of this beautiful natural curiosity is so fully and accurately described by that ingenious gentleman Joseph Banks, Esq. in Mr. Pennant's Tour, that it will no doubt be agreeable to the reader for us to transcribe it.

#### Account of STAFFA,

BY

JOSEPH BANKS, Esq;

" In the sound of Mull we came to anchor, on the Morvern side, opposite to a gentleman's house, called Drumnien; the owner of it, Mr. Maclean, having found out who we were, very cordially asked us ashore: we accepted his invitation, and arrived at his house; where we met an English gentleman, Mr. Leach, who no sooner saw us, than he told us, that about nine leagues from us was an island, where he believed no one even in the Highlands had been, on which were pillars like those of the Giant's-causeway: This was a great object to me who had wished to have seen the causeway itself, would time have allowed; I therefore resolved to proceed directly, especially as it was just in the way to the Columb-kill; accordingly having put up two days provisions, and my little tent, we put off in the boat about one o'clock for our intended voyage, having ordered the ship to wait for us in Tobirmore, a very fine harbour on the Mull side.

" At

“ At nine o’clock, after a tedious passage, having had not a breath of wind, we arrived, under the direction of Mr. Maclean’s son, and Mr. Leach. It was too dark to see any thing, so we carried our tent and baggage near the only house upon the island, and began to cook our suppers, in order to be prepared for the earliest dawn, to enjoy that which from the conversation of the gentlemen, we had now raised the highest expectations of.

“ The impatience which every body felt to see the wonders we had heard so largely described, prevented our morning’s rest ; every one was up and in motion before the break of day, and with the first light arrived at the S. W. part of the island, the seat of the most remarkable pillars ; where we no sooner arrived than we were struck with a scene of magnificence which exceeded our expectations, though formed, as we thought, upon the most sanguine foundations : the whole of that end of the island supported by ranges of natural pillars, mostly above fifty feet high, standing in natural colonnades according as the bays or points of land formed themselves : upon a firm basis of solid unformed rock, above these, the stratum which reaches to the soil or surface of the island, varied in thickness, as the island itself formed into hills or vallies ; each hill, which hung over the columns below, forming an ample pediment, some of these above sixty feet in thickness, from the base to the point, formed by the sloping of the hill on each side, almost into the shape of those used in architecture.

“ Compared to this what are the cathedrals or the palaces built by men ! mere models or playthings, imitations as diminutive as his works will always be when compared to those of nature. Where is now the boast of the architect ! regularity the only part in which he fancied himself to exceed his mistress, nature, is here found in her possession, and here

it

it has been for ages undescribed. Is not this the school where the art was originally studied, and what had been added to this by the whole Grecian school? a capital to ornament the column of nature, of which they could execute only a model; and for that very capital they were obliged to a bush of Acanthus: how amply does nature repay those who study her wonderful works!

“ With our minds full of such reflections we proceeded along the shore, treading upon another Giant’s-causeway, every stone being regularly formed into a certain number of sides and angles, till a short time we arrived at the mouth of a cave, the most magnificent, I suppose, that has ever been described by travellers.

“ The mind can hardly form an idea more magnificent than such a space, supported on each side by ranges of columns; and roofed by the bottoms of those, which have been broke off in order to form it; between the angles of which a yellow stalagmitic matter has exuded, which serves to define the angles precisely; and at the same time vary the colour with a great deal of elegance, and to render it still more agreeable, the whole is lighted from without; so that the farthest extremity is very plainly seen from without, and the air within being agitated by the flux and reflux of the tides, is perfectly dry and wholesome, free entirely from the damp vapours with which natural caverns in general abound.

“ We asked the name of it, said our guide, the Cave of *Fiubn*; what is *Fiubn*? said we, *Fiubn Mac Coul*; whom the translator of *Osian*’s works has called *Fingal*; how fortunate that in this cave we should meet with the remembrance of that chief, whose existence, as well as that of the whole Epic Poem, is almost doubted in England.

T

“ Enough



“ Enough for the beauties of Staffa, I shall now proceed to describe it and its productions more philosophically :

“ The little island of Staffa lies on the west coast of Mull, about three leagues north east from Jona, or the Columb Kill : its greatest length is about an English mile, and its breadth about half a one. On the west side of the island is a small bay, where boats generally land : a little to the southward of which, the first appearance of pillars are to be observed ; they are small, and instead of being placed upright, lie down on their sides, each forming a segment of a circle : from thence you pass a small cave, above which, the pillars now grown a little larger, are inclining in all directions : in one place in particular a small mass of them very much resemble the ribs of a ship : from hence having passed the cave, which if it is not low water, you must do in a boat, you come to the first ranges of pillars, which are still not above half as large as those a little beyond. Over against this place is a small island, called in Erse, *Boo-sha-la*, separated from the main, by a channel not many fathoms wide ; this whole island is composed of pillars, without any stratum above them ; they are still small, but by much the neatest formed of any about the place.

“ The first division of the island, for at high water it is divided into two, makes a kind of a cone, the pillars converging together towards the centre : on the other, they are in general laid down flat, and in the front next to the main, you see how beautifully they are packed together ; their ends coming out square with the bank which they form : all these have their transverse sections exact, and their surfaces smooth, which is by no means the case with the large ones, which are cracked in all directions.



*Booshala from the Cliff above it in Scotland.*



directions. I much question, however, if any one of this whole Island of Boo-sha-la, is two feet in diameter.

" The main island opposite to Boo-sha-la, and farther towards the north-west, is supported by ranges of pillars, pretty erect, and though not tall (as they are not uncovered to the base) of large diameters; and at their feet is an irregular pavement, made by the upper sides of such as have been broken off, which extends as far under water as the eye can reach. Here the forms of the pillars are apparent; these are of three, four, five, six, and seven sides; but the numbers of five and six are by much the most prevalent. The largest I measured was of seven; it was four feet five inches in diameter. I shall give the measurement of its sides, and those of some other forms which I met with :

No. 1. 4 sides diam. 1 ft. 5 in. No. 2. 5 sides diam. 2 ft. 10 in.

	Ft. In.					
Side	1	1	5	1	1	10
	2	1	1	2	1	10
	3	1	6	3	1	5'
	4	1	1	4	1	7½
				5	1	8

No. 3. 6 sides diam. 3 ft. 6 in. No. 4. 7 sides diam. 4 ft. 5 in.

1	0	10	1	2	10
2	2	2	2	2	4
3	2	2	3	1	10
4	1	11	4	2	0
5	2	2	5	1	1
6	2	9	6	1	6
			7	1	3

" The



“ The surfaces of these large pillars in general are rough and uneven, full of cracks in all directions; the transverse figure in the upright one, never fail to return in their true directions: the surfaces upon which we walked were often flat, having neither concavity nor convexity: the larger number, however, were concave, though some were very evidently convex; in some places the interstices within the perpendicular figures were filled up with a yellow spar: in one place the vein passed in among the mass of pillars, carrying here and there small threads of spar. Though they were broken through and through in all directions, yet their perpendicular figures might easily be traced: from whence it is easy to infer, that whatever the accident might have been, that caused the dislocation, it happened after the formation of the pillars.

“ From hence proceeding along shore, you arrive at *Fingal's Cave*: its dimensions, though I have given, I shall here again repeat in the form of a table:

		Ft.	In.
Length of the cave from the rock without		371	6
From the pitch of the arch	—	250	0
Breadth of ditto, at the mouth	—	53	7
At the farther end	— —	20	0
Height of the arch at the mouth	—	117	6
At the end	— — —	70	0
Height of an outside pillar	—	39	6
Of one at the north-west corner	—	54	0
Depth of water at the mouth	—	18	0
At the bottom	—	9	0

The cave runs into the rock in the direction of north-east by east, by the compass.

“ Pro-

“ Proceeding farther to the north-west, you meet with the highest ranges of pillars, the magnificent appearance of which is past all description: here they are bare to their very basis, and the stratum below them is also visible: in a short time it rises many feet above the water, and gives an opportunity of examining its quality. Its surface rough, and has often large lumps of stone sticking in it, as if half immersed; itself, when broken, is composed of a thousand heterogenous parts, which, together, have very much the appearance of a lava; and the more so as many of the lumps appear to be of the very same stone of which the pillars are formed: this whole stratum lies in an inclined position, dipping gradually towards the south-east. As hereabouts is the situation of the highest pillars, I shall mention my measurements of them, and the different strata in this place, premising that the measurements were made with a line, held in the hand of a person who stood at the top of the cliff, and reaching to the bottom, to the lower end of which was tied a white mark, which was observed by one who staid below for the purpose: when this mark was set off from the water, the person below noted it down, and made signal to him above, who made then a mark in his rope; whenever this mark passed a notable place, the same signal was made, and the name of the place noted down as before: the line being all hauled up, and the distances between the marks measured and noted down, gave, when compared with the book kept below, the distance, as for instance in the cave:

“ No. 1. in the book below, was called from the water to the foot of the first pillar in the book above; No. 1 gave thirty-six feet eight inches, the highest of that ascent, which was composed of broken pillars.

No.

## No. 1. Pillar at the west corner of Fingal's Cave.

	Ft.	In.
1. From the water to the foot of the pillar	12	10
2. Height of the pillar	37	3
3. Stratum above the pillar	66	9

## No. 2. Fingal's Cave.

1. From the water to the foot of the pillar	36	8
2. Height of the pillar	39	6
3. From the top of the pillar to the top of the arch	31	4
4. Thickness of the stratum above	34	4
By adding together the three first measurements, we got the height of the arch from the water.		
	117	6

## No. 3. Corner pillar to the westward of Fingal's Cave.

Stratum below the pillar of lava, like matter	11	0
Length of pillar	54	0
Stratum above the pillar	61	6

## No. 4. Another pillar to the westward.

Stratum below the pillar	17	1
Height of the pillar	50	0
Stratum above	51	1

## No. 5. Another pillar farther to the westward,

Stratum below the pillar	19	8
Height of the pillar	55	1
Stratum above	54	7

" The

"The stratum above the pillars, which is here mentioned, is uniformly the same, consisting of numberless small pillars, bending and inclining in all directions, sometimes so irregularly that the stones can only be said to have an inclination to assume a columnar form; in others more regular, but never breaking into, or disturbing the stratum of large pillars, whose tops every where keep an uniform and regular line.

"Proceeding now along shore, round the north end of the island, you arrive at *Oua-na-scarve*, or the *Corvorant's Cave*: here the stratum under the pillars is lifted up very high; the pillars above it are considerably less than those at the north-west end of the island, but still very considerable. Beyond is a bay, which cuts deep into the island, rendering it in that place not more than a quarter of a mile over. On the sides of this bay, especially beyond a little valley, which almost cuts the island into two, are two stages of pillars, but small; however, having a stratum betwixt them exactly the same as that above them, formed of innumerable little pillars, shaken out of their places and leaning in all directions."

"Having passed this bay, the pillars totally cease; the rock is of dark brown stone, and no signs of regularity occur till you have passed round the south-east end of the island (a space almost as large as that occupied by the pillars) which you meet again on the west side, beginning to form themselves irregularly; as if the stratum had an inclination to that form, and soon arrive at the bending pillars where I began.

"The stone of which the pillars are formed, is a coarse kind of basalt, very much resembling the Giant's Causeway in Ireland, though none of them are near so neat as the specimens of the latter, which I have seen at the British Museum; owing chiefly



chiefly to the colour, which in our's is a dirty brown, in the Irish a fine black: Indeed the whole production seems very much to resemble the Giant's Causeway; with which I should willingly compare it, had I any account of the former before me."

*Gighe Island* is about six miles long and one broad, and is the most eastern part of the Hebrides. The soil here is a mixture of rock, pasture, and arable. There are no high hills in it. The chief produce of this island is barley, bear, oats, flax, and potatoes.

This island contains about five hundred inhabitants, and the revenue is about six hundred pounds a year, most of it belonging to Mr. Macneile of Tainish. It had been long in possession of this family in old times, who were dispossessed of it in 1549, by the Clan Donald, but recovered again, and the time of its restoration is not mentioned.

Here is a little well, to which formerly was attributed a most miraculous quality, for in old time, if ever the chieftain lay herein wind-bound, thought himself certain of a favourable gale, by causing the well to be cleaned.

Here are some antient curiosities; in the ruins of a church are to be seen some tombs, with two-handed swords. At Kil-Chatan is a great rude column, sixteen feet high and four broad, and eight inches thick, and near it a cairn. On a line with this, at *Cnew-a-chara*, is another; and still higher in the same direction, at *Craoc-a-Crais*, is a cross and three cairns; probably the cross after the introduction of Christianity, was formed out of a Pagan monument, similar to the two former.

In a bottom, a little east from thence, is a large artificial mount, of a square form, growing less and less towards the top, which is flat, and has the vestige of a breast wall around. This is prob-

bly

bly the work of the Danes, the neighbouring nation.

Here are the common gull, common sand-piper, sea-pye; and other birds common to this island.

*Cara*, is an island of one mile long, divided by a narrow channel south of Gigha. It is inhabited only by one family, and had once a chapel.

*Jura*, is about twelve miles from Gigha, is said to be about thirty-four miles long, and about ten broad, and the most rugged of the Hebrides. It belongs to the Duke of Argyle, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Macneile of Colonsay, and Mr. Campbell of Chawfield.

This island is very mountainous, naked and impossible to be cultivated, except on the south, and a little of the western sides. The produce is cattle, horses, sheep, whose fleeces are of most excellent fineness, and numbers of goats. Bear and oats are raised here in good season, but they convert a great part of their grain into whisky. But the chief food of the common people is potatoes and shell-fish. Their fern ashes brings in about an hundred pounds a year; about two hundred tons of kelp is burnt annually, and sold from three to four pounds per ton.

Sloes are the only fruits of the island. Acid for punch is made of the berries of the mountain ash; and a kind of spirit is also distilled from them. The juice of the tops of heath boiled supplies them with a yellow for dying; the roots of the white water lilly, with a dark brown; &c.

The quadrupedes of Jura are about an hundred stags; some wild cats, otters, stoats, rats, and seals. The feathered game, black-cocks, grouse, ptarmigans and snipes. The stags are thought to have been here formerly numerous, for the original name of the island was *Deiray*, or *the Isle of Deer*.

so called by the Norwegians, from the observance of those noble animals.

The women are noted to die seldom in child-bed, are very prolific, and often bear twins. The air is very wholesome, and the inhabitants live to a great age; mention is made of one Gillour Maccrain, whose age exceeded that of either Jenkins or Par, for he had seen an hundred and eighty Christmas's in his own house, and died in the reign of Charles I. Mr. Pennant speaks of men of ninety years, who work, and that there is now living a woman of eighty, who can run down a sheep; he also says, they still observe some superstition here. The old women, when they undertake any cure, mumble over certain rythmical incantations. They preserve a stick of the witches tree, or mountain ash, as a protection against elves.

In this island is a little worm, called a *Fillan*, small as a thread, and not an inch in length. It insinuates itself (like the *Fuira* of Linndeus) under the skin, causes a redness and great pain, flies swiftly from part to part; but is curable by a pul-tice of cheese and honey.

The goat-herds, and the peasants who attend the herds of milch cows, have *Sheelins*, or summer huts. They are of different forms, some oblong, some conic, and so low as only to admit entrance by creeping through a vacancy made by displacing a faggot of birch twigs, placed there occasionally. They are constructed with branches of trees, covered with sods: the furniture, a bed of heath, placed on a bank of sod, two blankets and a rug; some dairy vessels, above, certain pendant shelves made of basket work, to hold the cheese.

The *Paps of Jura* consist of three very high mountains, called *Beinn-a-Chalqis*, or the mountain of the Sound: *Beinn Sbeunta*, or the hallowed mountain.

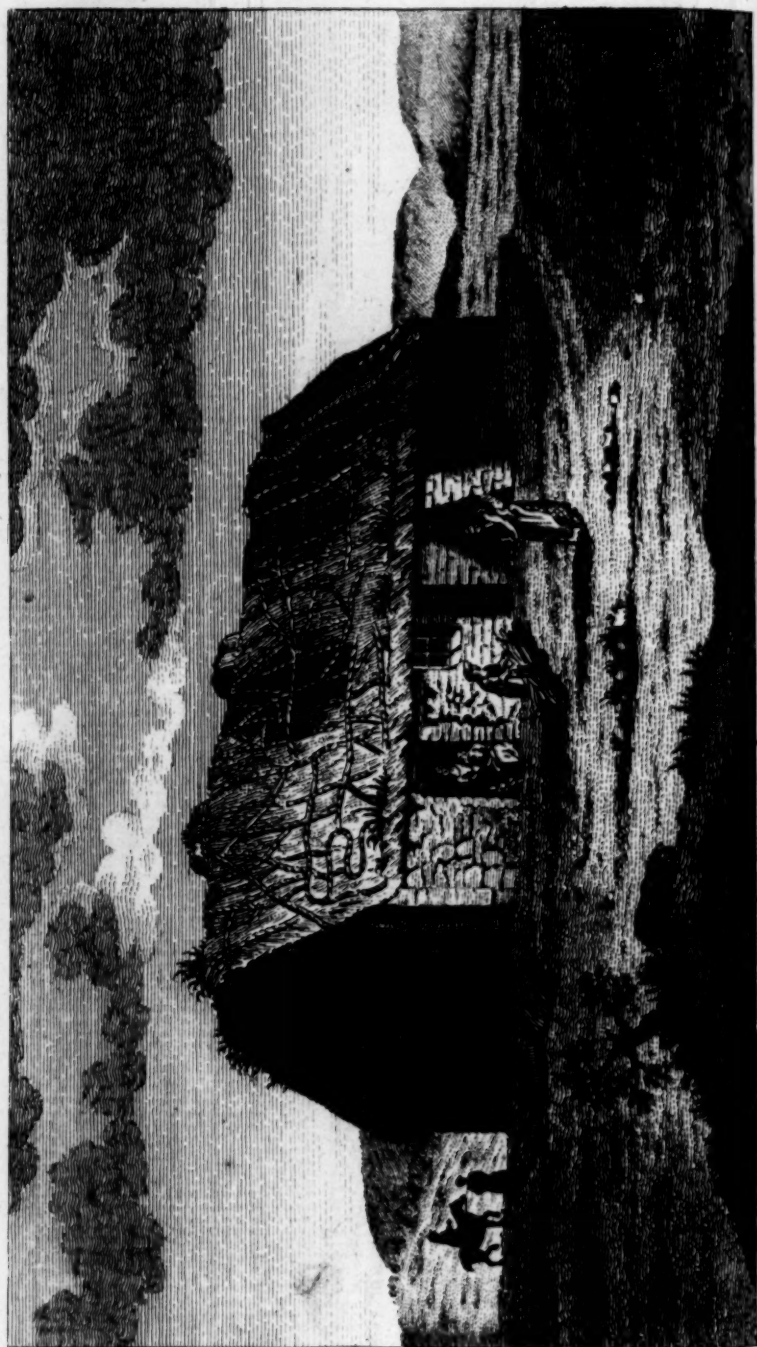


*Sheelins in Jura, and a distant View of the Paps.*









Wm. H. H. H.

mountain; *Beinn-an-air*, or the Mountain of Gold. They are composed of vast stones, covered with mosses near the base, but all above bare, and unconnected with each other. The ascent of this mountain is very difficult, but when accomplished, it fully repays the trouble, by the extent and wonderful prospect it affords.

*Fruchlan*, a small island near the shore, has a ruined tower of a square form on the top; a great Fois has been cut in the west side of the rock, over which formerly was a draw-bridge. It was in former times called the *Castle of Claig*, and was the prison where the Macdonalds kept their captives.

*Islay*, in Erse, Isle, is an hilly island, the loftiest hills are *Aird inis duil*, *Diur beinn*, and *Sy Arbbhein*. It is of a square form, deeply indented on the south by the great bay of Loch-an-daul. It is parted from Jura by the Sound, about fourteen miles long and about one broad.

The produce of the soil of this isle is bear, oats, some wheat, and much flax. The inhabitants are very poor, and their cottages afford nothing but scenes of misery. It abounds with cattle, and they have fine manures for their land, if they were instructed to make use of them. They have seawrack, coral, shell-sand, rock, pit-marle, and a tract of thirty-six square miles of lime-stone.

Here are said to be about seven or eight thousand inhabitants, great numbers of whom are employed in the mines and fishery. The women spin.

The animals of this island are,—Quadrupeds; stoats, weazles, otters, and hares. Birds; eagles, falcons, herons, &c. Fish; plaice, small dabs, large dabs, mullets, &c. and that rare fish, the lepadogaster of M. Govan. They have swarms of vipers here,

The



The inhabitants have a number of ancient diversions and superstitions. They have charms and arunlets to revenge themselves of their evil witches, who they often imagine injures their cows and other cattle.

The mines here consist chiefly of lead ore mixed with copper, which makes it expensive and troublesome to separate. Vast strata of that species of iron called *bog-ore*, of the concreted kind. Veins of emery, some quicksilver, and silver.

The hill of *Dum-Bhorairag*, has on the top a Danish Fort, circular, and about fourteen feet high; the masonry excellent, but without mortar; the walls are twelve feet thick, within which is a gallery, the *Caserne*, or garrison, where the arms were lodged. The entrance is low, covered at the top with great flat stones, and on each side is a hollow, probably intended for guard-rooms. The inside of the fort is a circular area, of fifty-two feet diameter, with a stone seat running all round the bottom of the wall, about two feet high, supposed to be a rest for the chieftains and soldiers.

Under another work, at the exterior part of the fort, is a kind of sally-port, and round the whole is a deep foss. Not far from this fort are the ruins of a chapel dedicated to St. Columba, and near it an ancient cross.

*Kitarow*, is a village which stands on the great bay of Loch-in-daal; near it is the seat of the proprietor of the island. There is a curious column in the church-yard, with the top broken off, and near it is a flat stone, with a hole in the middle. The first is supposed by Mr. Pennant, to be the shaft of a cross, and the last, the pedestal.

At *Tradaig*, near the head of the bay, are three deep hollows, formerly lined with stone; these were the watch towers of the natives, from which they watched

watched the motions of invaders from the seas. Near them is a great column of rude stones.

*Kil-choman* was the residence of the great Macdonald: here is a deep glen, where, it is said, he kept his fat cattle; the harbour of Macdonald, a little distance from it, had formerly piers, with doors to secure his shipping.

At *Doun-pallan* are some high rocks projecting into the sea. A path leads to the top, and there are strong transverse dikes on the ascent of each; in some parts hollows, where the occupiers used to retreat and defend themselves at the last extremity. Here are also other retreats in the neighbourhood, formed by small holes in the ground, sufficient to hold a single man in a sitting posture. The top is covered with a broad stone, and that with earth; here the defeated took refuge till their enemies were dispersed, which was seldom a long time.

The Cave of *Saneg-moor* is a beautiful curiosity. The entrance to it is difficult, the inside is wonderful, the roof is formed of solid rock, which returns the report of a musket with a noise like thunder. Within this cave is another, to which you enter by a fine rocky arch. This again divides into numbers of far winding passages, sometimes opening into fine wide expanses, again closing for a long space into galleries, passable but with difficulty. Here is a fine echo, which reverberates and dies away in a gentle declining murmur.

*Loch Drumond* is celebrated for the battle of Traill-Dhrainard, in 1598, between the Lords of the Isles and Sir Lauchlin Maclean, of Mull; wherein the latter was slain, with fourscore of his principal kinsmen, and two hundred of his principal soldiers, who covered the body of their chieftain.

About

About the centre of Isle is *Lochfinlagan*, a narrow piece of water, about three miles in circumference. In it is an island, famous for the principal residence of Macdonald. The ruins of his palace and chapel are still to be seen, and likewise the stone on which he stood to be crowned Lord of the Isles.

A small distance from it is another island, called *Islan-na-Corlle*, or the Island of Council, from his council which he assembled here.

*Crag-a-nair-gid*, or the Rock of Silver Rent, and *Crag-a-mione*, or the Rock of Rents in Kind, are two rocks, opposite each other, at the mouth of a harbour, on the south side of the island, which were said to take their names from the rents which were used to be paid upon them, when the Isle of Man was part of the kingdom of the Isles.

*Uamb-Fhearing*, or *Uarn mbies*, is a celebrated cavern on the Islan Coast, near the mouth of the Sound. Some families retire to it in summer, as their *sheelins* or summer residence.

*Oransay Isle* is three miles over, divided from Colon-say by a narrow Sound at low water. This island is high and rocky, except on the south, where it is low and sandy. It is rented by Mr. Macneile, and is only one farm, which yields bear, flax and potatoes.

Here are the ruins of an ancient monastery, founded, as some say, by St. Columba; but, according to *Pennant*, by the Lords of the Isles, for Canons regular of St. Augustine, dependant on the Abbey of Holyrood at Edinburgh. The church is fifty-nine feet long and eighteen broad, with many antique tombs and sculptures of the ancient Highlanders.

One of its abbots, of the name of Macduffie, lies beneath an arch in the side chapel. There is a stone near it adorned with foliage, a stag surrounded

rounded with dogs, and a ship with full sail; with the following inscription round it.

Hic Jacet Murchardus Macdusie de Collonsa,

An. Do. 1539, mense mart,

Ora me ille, Ammen.

There is placed a long pole near the tomb, in memory of the ensign staff of the family, which had been preserved miraculously for two hundred years, on which the fate of the Macduffian race depended, according to tradition. This Murchardus is said to have been executed by the Lord of the Isles for his oppression.

A square of forty-one feet, adjoining to the church, forms a cloister, one of its sides is ruined. There are several other buildings, but all in a ruinous state. An elegant cross is still standing, twelve feet high, one foot seven broad, and five inches thick.

This island takes its name from Oran, who, with St. Columba, having made a vow never to settle within sight of their native country, landed here, and ascended one of the rocks, but Ireland appearing to their view, they quitted it, and retired to Jona.

On the top of the rock the saints ascended, is a retreat of the old inhabitants, protected by a strong dike, and advanced works. Below is a mount, on which is supposed to have been a small Danish fort.

Here are a number of rocks divided by narrow passages, where assemble a number of *Eider-ducks*, and other wild-fowls. Here are a number of seals. They take the great species on a great rock, called *Dubirtach*, it is about a mile round, and reported to be the nearest of any to America.

*Jona*



*Jona* is an island belonging to the parish of Ross, in Mull. It is three miles long, and one broad. Its name is derived from a Hebrew word, which signifies a Dove, allusive to St. Columba, the founder of its fame. The Sound of Jona is bounded on the east by the Island of Mull, and on the west by that of Jona. The vessels sometimes anchor here, yet the safest anchorage is on the east side, between a little isle and that of Mull.

The soil is a compound of sand and comminuted sea shells, mixed with black loam. The produce is chiefly flax and potatoes; oats do not succeed so well. The number of inhabitants are about an hundred and fifty. But, *Pennant* says, they are the most stupid and lazy of all the islanders; yet many of them boast of their descent from the companions of St. Columba.

After St. Columba had left Ireland in the year 565, and landed at Oransey, which he left on account of its affording a sight of his native country, he came to Jona, which was then named Hy, he ascended many of the rocks, and erected on each a heap of stones, and not being able to discover Ireland from any of them, resolved to fix his abode in this island. One of these rocks is to this day named *Carnan-Cbul-red Eirinn*, i. e. the eminence of the back turned to Ireland.

The great sanctity of manners of Columba, and a miracle he wrought, soon gained him the favour of the Pictish King Bradeus, who gave him this little isle, where he founded a cell of Canons regular. The gift of *second sight* was also attributed to this saint, he having foretold the victory of Adan over the Picts and Saxons, the very moment it happened. He lived here an exemplary life to a great age, buried *Convallus* and *Kinnatil*, two Kings of Scotland, and was interred here himself. Though

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*General View of Jona.*

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the Irish pretend, his remains were buried with those of St. Bridget and St. Peter, at Down, according to the epitaph :

Hi tres in Duno tumulo tumulantur in Uno;  
Brigida, Patricius, atque Columba pius.

In the year 807, the monks were disturbed by the Danes, who killed several of them, and obliged them to retreat from their cell, with their abbot Celluch. Nor was it repealed till seven years after, when the Danes retreated from the island, it then received a different order of monks, called Chénices, which remained there till the dissolution.

The town here consists of about fifty houses, thatched with bear straw pulled up by the roots, and fastened on the roof with ropes made of heath. There are some others which have a better appearance than the rest, supposed to have belonged to some of its former inhabitants, when it was in a flourishing condition.

The ruins of a nunnery appear at a little distance from the village, it was consecrated to St. Oran, and filled with Canonesses of St. Augustine.

The church was fifty-eight feet by twenty. The floor of the east end, which is entire, is some feet thickly covered with cow-dung, the inhabitants permitting the cattle to shelter here, but are too lazy to remove this fine manure, which has been gathering there for more than a century.

Mr. *Pennant* having caused a part of this dung-hill to be removed, he discovered the tomb of the last prioress. " Her figure is cut on the face of a stone ; an angel on each side supports her head ; and above them is a little plate and a comb. The prioress occupies only one half of the surface ; the other is filled with the form of the Virgin Mary, with her head crowned and mitred ; the Child in



her arms, and to denote her the Queen of Heaven; a sun and moon appear above. At the feet is this address, from the prioress; *Saeta Maria ora pro me.* And around the Lady is described, *Hic Jacet Domina, Luna Donaldis Terleti filia quondam priorissa de Jona, quæ obiit anno m<sup>o</sup>. d<sup>o</sup>. XI<sup>mo</sup>. ejus animam Altissimo commendamus.*

“ There was another place for the burial of the nuns on the outside; where, at a respectable distance from the virtuous recluses lies, a frail sister.

“ This nunnery (continues *Pennant*) could never have been founded, as some assert, in the days of St. Columba, who was no admirer of the fair sex; in fact, he held them in such an abhorrence, that he detested all cattle on their account, and would not permit a cow to come within his sacred walls, because, *Sfar am bi bo, bidb Bean, Sfar am be bean bi, db mallacha.*” “ Where there is a cow, there must be a woman, and where there is a woman there must be mischief.”

From the nunnery is a broad paved way to the cathedral; another branches off to the Bay of Martyrs; and a third, the narrowest of the three, points to the hills. On the first is a large elegant cross, called Maclean's Cross; one of the three hundred and sixty which were standing at the reformation, and ordered to be destroyed by a provincial assembly held in this island.

*Reilig Orain*, or *the Burying-place of Oran*, is partly filled with tombs, but so over-grown with weeds as scarce to be seen. It was the favourite place of interment for a great number of monarchs and others, as every one was desirous of being buried in this holy ground.

“ The chapel of St. Oran stands in this place, which legend reports to have been the first building attempted

attempted by St. Columba: by the working of some evil spirit, the walls fell down as often as they were built up.

“ After some consultation, it was pronounced, that they never would be permanent till a human victim was buried alive. Oran, a companion of the saint, generously offered himself, and was interred accordingly: at the end of three days St. Columba had the curiosity to take a favorite look at his old friend, and caused the earth to be removed: to the surprize of all beholders, Oran started up, and began to reveal the secrets of his prison-house, and particularly declared, that all that had been said of hell was a meer joke. This dangerous impiety so shocked Columba, that with great policy he ordered the dirt to be flung in again: poor Oran was overwhelmed, and an end for ever was put to his preaching. His grave is near the door, distinguished only by a plain red stone.”\*

In Oran's Chapel are several tombs with ornaments and inscriptions. But there are a great number which are rendered intelligible; among the rest is a red unpolished stone, about seventy feet south of the chapel, under which lies a nameless King of France. But the memory of the famous old Doctor of Mull has had a better fate, and is preserved in these words:

Hic Jacet Johannaë Belonus Maclenown familiæ,  
Medicus qui mortuus est 19 Novembris, 1657,  
Æt 63. Donaldus Belomro fecit, 1674.

Ecce cadit jaculo victricus noster iniquæ,  
Qui toties alios solverat ipse muli,  
Sol Dea Gloria.

The

\* Pennant.

The precincts of this tomb were privileges of a girth, or sanctuary; and a little to the north of this inclosure is the cathedral, the history and account of which is so accurately described in *Pennant's Tour*, that it will, no doubt be acceptable to the reader.

"The cathedral lies a little to the north of this inclosure; is in the form of a cross. The length from east to west is an hundred and fifteen feet. The breadth twenty-three. The length of the transept seventy. Over the centre is a handsome tower: on each of which is a window with stone work of different forms in every one.

"On the south side of the chancel are some Gothic arches supported by pillars, nine feet eight inches high, including the capitals; and eight feet nine inches in circumference. The capitals are quite peculiar; carved round with various superstitious figures, among others is an angel weighing of souls.

"The altar was of white marble, veined with grey, and is vulgarly supposed to have reached from side to side of the chancel: but Mr. Satcheverel, who saw it when almost entire, assures us, that the size was six feet by four.

"The demolition of this stone was owing to the belief of the superstitious; who were of opinion, that a piece of it conveyed to the possessor success in whatever he undertook. A very small portion is now left; and even that we contributed to diminish.

"Near the altar is the tomb of the abbot Mackinnon. His figure lies recumbent, with this inscription round the margin, "Hic jacet Johannes Mac-Fingone abbas de Hy, que, obiit anno Domini Milleffimo quingentessimo cujus animæ propitiatur Deus altissimus. Amen.

"On

\* On the other side is the tomb and figure of abbot Kenneth.

" On the floor is the effigy of an armed knight, with a whilk by his side, as if he had just returned from the feast of shells in the hall of Fingal.

" All the tombs lie east and west; the head to the west; probably from a superstition that at the general resurrection they may rise with their faces to the east.

" Among these funeral subjects, the interment (a few years ago) of a female remarkable for her lineage must not be omitted. She was a direct descendant and the last of the Clan-an-oister, ostiarii, or door-keepers to the monastery. The first of the family came over with Columba, but falling under his displeasure, it was decreed on the imprecation of this irritable saint, that never more than five of his clan should exist at one time; and in consequence when a sixth was born, one of the five was to look for death. This, report says, always happened till the period that the race was extinguished in this woman.

" It is difficult to say, when the present church was built: If we may credit Boethius, it was rebuilt by Maulduinus, in the seventh century out of the ruins of the former. But the present structure is far too magnificent for that age. Most of the walls are built with red granite from the Nuns Isle in the Sound.

" From the south-east corner are two parallel walls about twelve feet high, and ten feet distant from each other. At present they are called Dorus tràgh, or the door to the shore: are supposed to have been continued from the cathedral to the sea, to have been roofed, and to have formed a covered gallery the whole way.

" In



" In the church-yard is a fine cross, fourteen feet high, two feet two inches broad, and ten inches thick, made of a single piece of red granite. The pedestal is three feet high.

" Near the south-east is Mary's Chapel. Besides this, we are informed, that there were several others founded by the Scottish monarchs, and the Reguli of the Isles.

The monastery lies behind the cathedral. It is in a most ruinous state; a small remnant of a cloister is left. In a corner are some black stones, held so sacred, but for what reason I am ignorant, that it was customary to swear by them: perhaps from their being neighbours to the tutelar saint, whose grave is almost adjacent.

" Boethius gives this monastery an earlier antiquity than perhaps it can justly claim. He says, that after the defeat of the Scots, at the battle of Munda, in the year 379: the survivors, with all the religious fled to this island; and were the original founders of this house. But the account given by the venerable Bede is much more probable, that St. Columba was the original founder, as has been before related.

" This isle, says the Dean, *bes beine ricblie Dotat* by the Scotch Kings. And mentioned several little islands that belonged to it, which he calls, Soa, Naban, Moroan, Reringe, Inch Kenzie, Eor-say, and Kannay, but if these were all the endowments, they would never serve to lead the religious into the temptations of luxury.

" Columba was the first abbot: he and his successors maintained a jurisdiction over all the other monasteries that branched from this; and over all the monks of this abbey that exercised the priestly or even episcopal function in other places. One of the institutes of Loyola seems here to have been very early established, for the *elves* of this house seem

seem not to think themselves freed from their vow of obedience to the abbot of Jona. Bede speaks of the singular pre-eminence, and says, that the island always had for a governor an Abbot-Prefbyter, whose power (by a very uncommon rule) not only every province, but even the bishops themselves, obeyed. From this account, the enemies to episcopacy have inferred, that the rank of Bishop was a novelty, introduced into the church in corrupt times; and the authority they assumed was an errant usurpation, since a simple abbot, for so considerable a space was permitted to have the superiority. In answer to this, Archbishop Usher advances, that the power of the abbot of Jona was only local; and extended only to the bishop who resided there: for after the conquest of the Isle of Man by the English, and the division of the see after that event, the bishop of the isles made Jona his residence, which before was in Man. But notwithstanding this, the venerable Bede seems to be a stronger authority, than that of the Ulster Annals, quoted by the archbishop, which pretend no more than that a bishop had always resided at Jona, without even an attempt to refute the positive assertion of the most respectable author we have (relating to church matters) in those primitive times.

“ North of the monastery are the remains of the bishop’s house; the residence of the bishops of the isles after the Isle of Man was separated from them. This event happened in the time of Edward I. On their arrival, the abbots permitted to them the use of their church, for they never had a cathedral of their own, except that in the Isle of Man. During the time of the Norwegian reign, which lasted near two hundred years, the bishops were chosen without respect of country, for we find French, Norwegian, English, and Scotch among the prelates; and

and they were generally, but not always, consecrated at Drontheim. This see was endowed with thirteen islands; but some of them were forced from them by the tyranny of some of the little chieftains; thus for example, Rása, as the honest Dean says, was pertaining to Mac-Gyllychallan by the sword, and to the bishop of the isles by heritage.

“ The title of these prelates, during the conjunction of Man and Sodor, had been universally mistaken, till the explication of that most ingenious writer, Dr. Macpherson : it was always supposed to have been derived from Soder, an imaginary town, either in Man or Jona ; whose derivation was taken from the Greek Soter, or Saviour. During the time that the Norwegians were in the possession of the isles, they divided them into two parts ; the Northern, which comprehended all that lay on the north of the point of Arnarmurchan, and were called the *Norderoys*, from *Norder* North, and *ey* an Island. And the *Sudereys* took in those that lay to the south of that promontory. This was only a civil division for the sake of governing these scattered dominions with more facility ; for a separate viceroy was sent to each, but both were subject to the same jurisdiction civil and ecclesiastical. But as the *Sudereys* was the most important, that had the honour of giving name to the bishoprick, the Isle of Man retained both titles, like England unites that of France, notwithstanding many centuries have elapsed since the right of each to the now usurped titles are lost.

“ Proceed on our walk. To the west of the convent is the Abbot's-mount, overlooking the whole. Beneath seem to have been the gardens, once well cultivated, for we are told that the monks

monks transplanted from other places, herbs both esculant and medicinal.

“ Beyond the mount are the ruins of a kiln, and a granary : and near it was the mill. The lake or pool that served it lay behind ; is now drained, and is the turbery, the fuel of the natives : it appears to have been once divided, for all along the middle runs a raised way, pointing to the hills. They neglect at present the convenience of a mill, and use only *querns*.

“ North from the granary extends a narrow flat, with a double dike and fofs on one side, and a single dike on the other. At the end is a square containing a cairn, and surrounded with a stone dike. This is called a burial place : it must have been in very early times cotemporary with other cairns, perhaps in the days of Druidism. For Bishop Pocock mentions, that he had seen two stones seven feet high, with a third laid across on their tops, an evident *Cromlech* : he also adds, that the Irish name of the island was *Inish Drunish* ; which agrees with the account I have somewhere read, that Jona had been the seat of Druids expelled by Columba, who found them there.

“ Before I quit this height, I must observe, that the whole of their religious buildings were covered on the north side by dikes, as a protection from the northern invaders, who paid little regard to the sanctity of their characters.

“ The public was greatly interested in the preservation of this place, for it was the repository of most of the antient Scotch records. The library here must also have been invaluable, if we can depend upon Boethius, who asserts, that Fergus II. assisting Alaric the Goth, in the sacking of Rome, brought away, as share of the plunder, a chest of books, which he presented to the monastery of Jona. Æneas Sylvius, afterwards Pope Pius II.



intended, when he was in Scotland, to visit the library in search of the lost books of Livy, but was prevented by the death of King James I. A small parcel of them were in 1525 brought to Aberdeen, and great pains were taken to unfold them, but through age, and the tenderness of the parchment, little could be read; but from what the learned were able to make out, the work appeared by the style, to have rather been a fragment of Salust than of Livy. But the register and records of the island, all written on parchment, and probably other more antique and valuable remains, were all destroyed by that worse than *Gothic Synod*, who, at the reformation declared war against all sciences.

“ At present, this once celebrated seat of learning is destitute of even a school-master, and this seminary of holy men wants even a minister to assist them in the common duties of religion.”\*

*Cnoc-mar-Aimgeal*, i. e. *the Hill of the Angels*, is a small hill, with a small circle of stones, and a little cairn in the middle, which appears to be Druidical. The natives had formerly a custom of bringing their horses to this circle, at the feast of St. Michael, and to course round it, which is supposed to have arisen from the old Popish method of blessing the horses on one season of the year.

From the summit of the hill of *Dunii*, is a most picturesque view of the neighbouring little islands; of the long low isles of *Coll* and *Tir*, to the west; and the vast height of *Rum* and *Skie* to the north.

*Rum*, or *Ronin Isle* consists of one great mountain, divided into several points, the highest called *Aisgobhall*. It is about twelve miles long, six broad, and contains about three hundred and twenty-five inhabitants. The surface is covered with heath, and in a state of nature;

\* Pennant.

ture; the heights rocky. There is very little arable land here.

The soil produces good corn and potatoes. Of bear and oats not sufficient to supply the inhabitants. The poorer sort subsist chiefly on curds, milk, and fish. Their cattle are sheep, horses, small delicate mutton, black cattle, goats, &c. They carry on a commerce with their goats, and black cattle.

As they take no pains to preserve any hay, the cattle feed in the winter upon a little spot of grass, which is taken care of by a man called *Fear cuartaich*: every farmer has one of these servants, he has likewise the corn under his care, and is paid for his trouble by kine. There is very few poultry here, the grain being so very scarce.

There were formerly a number of stags in this island, but which is now greatly reduced; the eagles destroying the young fawns, and sometimes the old deer, by striking them between the horns, and worrying them till they fall down the precipice, and so become their prey.

Among the great abundance of birds seen here, are eagles, ravens, hooded crows, wheat-ears, white wagtail, titlarks, ring ouzels, grouse, ptarmigans, curlews, green plovers, falceddars or arctic gulls, and the greater terns.

The inhabitants of this island have meagre countenances, though the rest of their body is well made and healthy. They seldom are troubled with any disorder: and if the dysentery attacks them, they have a remedy at hand, by making a decoction of tormentil roots with milk. They have not had a return of the small-pox, but once these thirty-four years, but they are often visited with the measles. They are also here addicted to superstition, and believe in *second-sight*.

There

There is a minister belonging to this island, who sometimes visits the inhabitants, but there being only the ruins of a church left, he may be said to preach in the open air.

“ *Sky* or *Skie Island*, is above sixty miles long, the breadth unequal, occasioned by the lochs on both sides. The present name is derived from the Norman word *Ski*, a Mist, and from the clouds which hang over it, *Ealand Skianach*, or the *Cloudy Island*. The rainy season here begins about August, when the westerly wind driving the clouds charged with vapour, on the lofty hills of Cuchullin, and their contents deluge the island in a manner unknown in other places. These winds, which begin moderate, rage with incredible fury, about the autumnal Equinox, so that there is scarce a week of fair weather, except in summer, which also is commonly damp and mostly cold.

This island is the picture of famine, the wet season preventing the inhabitants from enjoying the fruits of the earth. During the wet season they are almost starving, and what little subsistence they get, is picked up along the shores; limpets and other shell-fish are then their chief food. This scarcity has induced numbers to emigrate. They raise but a small quantity of corn, not sufficient for the number of inhabitants, and even to preserve that little from the inclemency of the sky, great pains are taken. The moment that the corn is cut down, a certain number of sheaves are gathered in a heap, and thatched on the top; the first dry moment that happens, the thatch is taken off, and the sheaves now dry, are carried in, and this is repeated till the whole crop is received.

“ The quantity of corn raised in tolerable seasons, in this island, is esteemed to be about nine thousand bolls. The number of mouths to consume

time them near thirty thousand, migrations and depressions of spirits, the last a common cause of depopulation, having since the year 1750 reduced the number to between twelve and thirteen; one thousand having crossed the Atlantic, others sunk beneath poverty, or in despair, ceased to obey the first great command, "ENCREASE and MULTIPLY."\*

The only trade of this island is in cattle: of which they sell about four thousand annually; these are kept during winter in what are called Winter parks till April, when they are foddered with straw, where they are turned out to graze in the day, and are drove back again in the evening to their dry grounds. The poorer sort are obliged to shelter their cattle under the same roof with themselves, and partake of the same meal with which they themselves are supported.

The common food of the poor is a thick meal pudding, with milk, butter or treacle, or a thinner sort called *easocks*, which is taken with their bannocks; they make about three hundred tons of kelp annually; the houses here in general are thatched with fern both root and stalk, which will last upwards of twenty years; there are a few slated houses; the people are not so superstitious, nor do they pretend so greatly to the gift of second sight, as many in other islands, most of those ancient tales being exploded.

Among the number of their ancient sprights, was one who they idly imagined would clean their houses, help to churn, thrash their corn, and would belabour those who made a jest of him. This serviceable phantom, whom they termed *Robin Good-fellow*, they represented as stout and blooming, with fine long flowing hair, and when he visited them, always came with a wand in his hand.

\* Pennant.



To *Gruargich*, the milkmaids offered their sacrifices, by pouring a libation of milk on a certain flat round stone, about four or five feet in circumference.

The *Taghairm* was another species of magic of the most wild, horrid and romantic nature, which was practised at a vast cataract in the district of Trotterness; the cataract is formed by a fall of water from a high rock, which gets so far out, as to form a dry hollow beneath, between the waters and the precipice; in this concavity, an impostor of the family who pretended to oracular knowledge, was placed, sewed up in the hide of an ox; the trembling inquirer puts the question to this imagined oracle, receives his answer from him, and goes home terrified and amazed at the wonderful knowledge of the oracle.

The Frith, which divides Sky from Inverness-shire, is narrow, but opens into a fine bay, which contracts again at the north end, and at Kubic forms a strait, through which the current runs with violent rapidity, into another expanse, or rather an amphitheatre surrounded with mountains.

At *Kyle* is the passage or ferry for cattle from Sky, the stream is very rapid here; the method of ferrying them over is by tying six, eight or twelve of them, with ropes fastened from the horn of one to its tail, and so to the next; the first is fastened to the boat, and thus they swim to the opposite shore; the horses are generally ferried over by fours, two men being in the boat, hold two of each side with halters, and thus safely pass them over.

*Coire Chattachan*, is the house of Mr. Mackinnon, pleasantly situated between two brooks, with a very lofty hill behind it, called *Beinn na callirch*, or the hill of the old Hag; the ascent is crowned with loose stones, the summit flat and naked, with a  
most

most enormous Cairn, said to have been the burial-place of a gigantic woman in Fingal's time; a ridge joins this hill to that of *Beirnnagrian*, i.e. the Mountain of the *Sun*; perhaps venerated in former times; from these hills are some picturesque, savage, and astonishing views: some awfully solemn and terrible, and others no less pleasing and amusing.

The custom of the *Luagbadh*, or, *Walking of Cloth*, is used here instead of the fulling-mill. It is performed by twelve or fourteen women, seated on each side of a long board, ribbed length-ways, on which is placed the cloth. They first work it backwards and forwards with their hands and feet alternately, as one or the other tires. During this operation, they continually keep singing, and as the fury of the song rises, their labour increases in proportion, and arrives to such a pitch, that a stranger might reasonably imagine them to be worked up to a species of phrenzy. This method of singing they likewise use at the quern, and other employments.

*Raafay*, to the east of Sky, is computed to be fifteen miles long and two broad, and probably contains one hundred square miles. But little pasture or tillage ground is found here, notwithstanding its great extent: the surface being rough, rocky, and barren. The cattle often perish by falling from the precipices.

This island of *Raafa*, with *Rona* and *Fladda*, are in the possession of Mr. Macleod, but the two last are uninhabited, only affording pasture for cattle, of which, says Dr. *Johnson*, an hundred and sixty winter in *Rona*, under the superintendence of one solitary herdsman.

There are but few trees in this island, though the orchards and large fruit trees about the house of the Laird, proves that there is a possibility of growing

growing them. Here are many rivulets, one of which turns a corn-mill.

Here are wild-fowl in abundance; but neither deers, hares, nor rabbits. Foxes they have in plenty, but which greatly diminish, owing to a price being set upon their heads for some years past. The other beasts of prey are otters and weazels.

They have but little corn here: the women reap it while the men bind up the sheaves. Here likewise the song accompanies the labour, and the strokes of the sickle is timed with the modulation of the harvest song.

The first possessors of Raasay are supposed to be far back from the present time; many things occur to prove this, the caves on one side of it are supposed to be the retreats of the rude nations of the first ages from the weather. *Elfbolts* or stoneheads of arrows which are often picked up by the people, who suppose them to be shot by fairies to destroy their cattle, is a still stronger circumstance that such pointed weapons were used before muskets were known.

A small distance from the house of Mr. Macleod is a chapel now in ruins, but has been long used as a place of burial. There are small squares inclosed with stones about them, the sepulchres of particular families, there are other stones here also, with crosses cut upon them, supposed to be the ancient boundaries of the consecrated ground, though it is said by Mr. Martin to have been the custom to erect a cross at the death of the lady of the island.

*Talyskir* is seated in a wood and is the habitation of Mr. Macleod, Lieutenant Colonel in the Dutch service. This situation is more adapted for the hermetical life, than that of the gay and jovial. It stands near the sea, with lofty hills on the land side, streaming with water-falls. The garden is sheltered with

with firs and pines, and the whole spot has an air of solitude and meditation.

About a mile south from Talyskir, to which you are rowed by water, beneath a rock of magnificent cliffs, is a high hill called *Briis-mbawl*\*; "Having in the front a fine series of regular Basaltic columns, resembling the Giant's Causeway in Ireland; the pillars above twenty feet high, consisting of four, five, and six angles, but mostly of five, the columns less frequently joined than those of the Irish; the joints being at great and unequal distances, but the majority are entire, even those that are joined are less concave and convex on their opposite surfaces than the columns of the former. The stratum that rests on this colonade is very irregular and shattery, yet seems to make some effort to form. The ruins of the columns of the base make a grand appearance; these were the ruins of the creation: Those of Rome the works of human art; seem to them, but as the ruins of yesterday.

"At a small distance from these on the slope of a hill is a tract of some roads, entirely formed of the tops of several series of columns, even and close set, forming a reticulated surface, of amazing beauty and curiosity. This is the most northern *basalties* I am acquainted with; the last of four in the British dominions: all running from south to north, nearly in a meridian, the Giant's Causeway appears first, Staffa second, the Rock Hunbla about twenty leagues further, and finally, the Column of Briis-mhawl; the depth of the ocean in all probability conceals the lost links of this chain."

In the way to *Dúnvegán*, is *Lochbradale*, a beautiful harbour with a number of safe creeks. Plenty of cod are caught here in the herring-season.

*Shuar*, is a beautiful Danish fort, standing on the summit of the rock. It is a circular structure, five

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apartments

\* Penname.



apartments are traced in the ruins, one in the centre, and four around ; the walls are ten feet high, covered with great stones.

There is another large rock about a furlong to the north-west, with the ruins of a very thick wall on the top, and the traces of a dyke quite round, deemed inaccessible on the land side. About two miles further, two large conoid caverns by the side of the road, and somewhat farther is

*Dunvegan*, a rocky prominence that juts out into a bay, on the west side of Sky. It is about two English miles long, and three quarters of a mile broad, with an area of only nine hundred and sixty English miles. Half of this spot the Laird retains in his own hands, the other part is inhabited by an hundred and sixty persons, who pay their rent by exported cattle.

This little island is in the possession of Mr. Macleod, a gentleman descended from one of the Norwegian viceroys or governors of the isles, while they bore a foreign yoke. The house or castle is built upon a rock, over a loch of the same name, a branch of the Loch-falart. It is partly old and partly modern, the oldest part is the greatest, consisting of a square tower, with a wall round the edge of the rock, which was inaccessible on every side but that towards the water. This castle was began to be repaired by the grandfather of the present Laird, but in a short time he desisted from his intent. There is a tradition in the family, that whoever repairs it shall not long outlive the reparation.

There is likewise kept in this castle, the tattered remnants of the Braolauch-Shi, or Fairy Flag of the Family, bestowed on it by *Titania*, the *Ben-shi*, or wife to *Oberon*, King of the Fairies. Tradition says, she blessed it with three important powers, which were only to be exerted on these occasions ;

occasions : but at the last, after the end was obtained, an invisible being is to arrive, and carry off standard and standard-bearer, never more to be seen.

A great ox horn is likewise preserved here. It is tipt with silver, the aim is twisted round its spires, and the mouth brought over the ibba. It holds about two quarts; and, it is said, the heir of Macleod is expected to swallow the contents at one draught, as a test of his manhood, before he is permitted to bear arms.

Here is also an ancient iron shield; it is of a round form, and even now weighs more than twenty pounds.

*Kingburgh* deserves mention for the sake of its mistress, Flora Macdonald, whose courage and fidelity to a fugitive adventurer deserves praise and admiration. This Lady concealed the Pretender for several days in a female habit, and was of great assistance to him in his escape, when he was closely pursued by the royal forces.

At *Ulinish* is a circular inclosure, about forty two feet in diameter, walled round with loose stones; these walls are about nine feet high, very thick, and narrower towards the top; there were several smaller rounds of wall within the circle, which formed distinct apartments; the entrance is covered with flat stones; it does not appear to have been ever crossed. It is supposed by Johnson, that these sort of inclosures were for the security of the herds and cattle in the night, against the lawless robberies of their neighbours.

Not far distant is another place of security, a cave which runs a great way under ground; this is so low, that a person cannot stand erect in it, and very narrow; this is likewise said to be a hiding place for the utensils, clothiers, and even the wives  
and

and children of the islanders, in former rude times, when they were disturbed by the cruel invader.

There is likewise the remains of a fortress at no great distance, formerly a place of refuge, erected by Hugh Macdonald, in the reign of James the Sixth. The reader will no doubt excuse a short digression; to give an example of the just punishment of ingratitude and treachery in this Hugh Macdonald, which Dr. Johnson thus relates:

“Hugh Macdonald was next heir to the dignity and fortune of his chief. Hugh, being so near his wish, was impatient of delay; and had art and influence sufficient to engage several gentlemen in a plot against the Laird’s life. Something must be stipulated on both sides; for they would not dip their hands in blood merely for Hugh’s advancement. The compact was formerly written, signed by the conspirators, and placed in the hands of one Macleod.

“It happened that Macleod had sold some cattle to a drover, who not having ready money, gave him a bond for payment. The debt was discharged, and the bond re-demanded; which Macleod, who could not read, intending to put into his hands, gave him the conspiracy. The drover, when he had read the paper, delivered it privately to Macdonald, who being thus informed of his danger, called his friends together, and provided for his safety. He made a public feast, and inviting Hugh Macdonald and his confederates, placed each of them at the table between two men of known fidelity. The compact of conspiracy was then shewn, and every man confronted with his own name. Macdonald acted with great moderation. He upbraided Hugh, both with disloyalty and ingratitude; but told the rest, that he considered them as men deluded and misinformed. Hugh was sworn to fidelity, and dismissed with his companions;

companions; but he was not generous enough to be reclaimed by lenity; and finding no longer any countenance among the gentlemen, endeavoured to execute the same design by meaner hands. In this practice he was detected, taken to Macdonald's castle, and imprisoned in the dungeon. When he was hungry, they let down a plentiful meal of salted meat; and when, after his repast, he called for drink, conveyed to him a covered cup, which, when he lifted the lid, he found empty. From that time they visited him no more, but left him to perish in solitude and darkness."

On the road from Kingsburgh is a cairn with a great stone on the top, called the high stones of Ugg, which is said to have taken its name from the Danish poet *Uggerus*.

Descending from the road is the fertile valley of Ugg; and beyond another hill, in a bottom, is the parish of *Kilmore*, the granary of Skie. Beneath Muggastol, the principal house of Sir Alexander Macdonald, was the lake of St. Columba, now drained: Here are the ruins of a monastery, which appear to be very ancient, from the great stones without mortar, the customary method of the Druids. The cells and rooms are still visible; the chapel is more modern, and the stones joined together with mortar. These chapels were numerous on the little islands near the sea, where the mariners, as before mentioned, used to land, to perform their prayers for the safety of their voyage, such places were called *Pein-orah*, or the Land of Prayer.

About three miles farther is *Sgor-more*, i. e. the great projection; and a little farther *Duntuil-Castle*, or the *Castle of the grassy Eminence*. It is at present in ruins, but situate at the verge of a high precipice looking over the sea, the ground near it being a verdant turf, has a fine and pleasing appearance.

This



This castle was inhabited no longer than sixty years ago; the original possessors were the Macdonalds in Skie. Adjoining is a hill called *Croc-en-erick*, i. e. the *Hill of Pleas*, from the disputes of the people being determined thereon. Such places for that purpose are frequent near the seat of the chieftains.

We must remark, that in Skie, the bagpipe is still held in great repute. There has been in Skie, beyond all memory, a race of pipers, under the direction of Marimmon, which is not yet quite extinct.

In Skie are two grammar schools, where boarders are regularly educated, from three pounds to four pounds ten shillings a year, and for instruction, half a crown a quarter. The scholars only resort to them in summer, provisions being so very scarce in winter.

*Loch-Maree*; is a fine lake, which at first is but half a mile broad, but by degrees widens into a great bay, about four miles in breadth, filled with a great cluster of little isles. In the passage to the bay, the north shore is lined with steep rocks, mostly filled with pines.

The lake is eighteen miles long, the waters of which are said very rarely to be frozen, the depth is various, and the bottom uneven, from sixty fathoms to ten; its fish are salmon, char and trout; of the last of which, some are of the weight of thirty pounds, at the mouth of the river is a salmon fishery, where is annually caught about three or four lasts, and on the banks are the remains of a very ancient iron furnace.

*Inch Maree* is situate upon this loch, which derives its name from *St. Maree*, the favoured isle of the Saint, the patron of all the coast from Applecross to Lochbroom. This is esteemed the most beautiful

beautiful of all the isles; it being partly covered with a beautiful grove of oaks, ash, willow, wicker, birch, fir, haseel, and exceeding large hollies, here is a circular dyke of stones, which has been long used as a burial place; the entrance to it is very narrow. The people shew you a stump of a tree, which they inform you was an altar, but probably the substitute of one of stone.

The greatest curiosity of this place is a well dedicated to the saint, the water is said to have a miraculous effect on lunatics. The method of cure is performed by bringing the patient to the sacred island, obliging him to kneel before the altar, and on quitting it the friends or attendants leave an offering of money; he is then conducted to the well, and is given some of the holy water to drink, where a second money offering is left; the draught taken, they plunge the lunatic thrice in the lake, and the same operation is repeated every day for the course of some weeks. The superstitious attribute this cure to a miraculous cause; and if the patient finds relief, they often give the saint that honour which is only sometimes fortunately occasioned by natural causes.

Many who visit this well infer another superstitious omen of the disposition of St. Maree; if the well is full they deem it propitious; but if it is not, they are doubtful of success: But be it as it will, this saint is held in high esteem by the people of these parts, and the common oath of the people is by *St. Maree*: So great a veneration have they for this saint, that the traveller leaves an offering at every one of his resting places, which chiefly consist of a stone, a stick or a bit of rag. These marks of respect shewn, they hope to travel safely the rest of their journey.

This shore is exceedingly rocky, and where the bay contracts again is a very high rock, formed of  
short

short precipices, with shelves between, filled with pines, which render the view amazingly beautiful.

The mountains on the south side are covered with fine woods of birch, mixed with a few pines. The irregularity of the heights of the mountains forms here and there fine openings, which give a beautiful and varied landscape to the eye. Along the length of these mountains runs a Military Way.

The water suddenly narrows at the bottom of the lake, where it continues for near a mile, not above a hundred yards broad. The banks are here thickly lined with trees, with little semi-circular bays here and there to the end. The waters, after the course of a mile, flowing with rapidity, empty themselves into a deep and darksome hole, called Poole Ewe, which opens into the large bay of Loch Ewe.

*Inch-Maree* is the station of a government packet, that sails regularly from hence to Stornaway in Lewis, a place now growing considerable by the encouragement of the proprietor Lord Seaforth.

*Gair-Loch*, is about six miles south from Loch-Maree, it consists of a few scattered houses, on a fine bay of the same name. *Flowerdale*, the seat of Sir Hector Mackenzie, is finely situated beneath hills beautifully clothed with woods.

This parish is very extensive, and the number of inhabitants greatly increased, being now about the number of three thousand. It is a great herring-fishery, their fish coming in great shoals from June to January; the cod, which follows the herrings, are taken in considerable numbers on the great sand bank, one corner of which reaches to this bay, and is supposed to extend as far as *Cape Wrath*, and south as low as *Rona* off *Skie*, with a number of branches, with cod and ling swarming thereon, the computed quantity of fish taken annually is from five to twenty-

twenty-seven thousand. The fishing time lasts from February to April, and is carried on with long lines. This trade, like most others, is monopolized, and the poor fishers are obliged to sell their fish at half price to those who sell it to the merchants.

They have greatly improved in farming in this part, owing to the example of some patriotic and ingenious gentlemen. They now burn lime and use sea-tang as manure, and shell-sand, by those who can afford to pay for the importation of it. Their chief trade is in cattle and horses. They have a custom to bleed the cattle at spring and fall, and preserve the blood to be eaten cold.

In sailing from hence towards Inverness, you pass *Loch Torridon* and *Applecross Bay*, small, but furnished with well cultivated and inhabited shores.

*Soa Brettil* is one of the inferior islands about Skie. It is full of bogs and fitter for pasturage than cultivation. About a mile on the west side it is covered with wood, and the rest consists of heath and grass. The coast abounds with cod and ling.

*Paiba*, is situate on the north coast, in a bay betwixt Skie and Ross. Here is such plenty of good pasturage, that the cows give near double the milk that they do in Skie. Here are abundance of lobsters, with other shell fish, and all the common sea plants.

*Scalpa*, a small distance from Skie, has corn, grass, and wood. The chief animals were deer, of which there are now but few, for the reasons before given. It has mountains from the south to the north end, but the former is mostly arable, and it is famous for herring and cod-fishing, and so abounds with oysters, that a spring tide or ebb commonly leaves very large quantities on the sands.



*Altrig*, is a high rocky ground, yet reckoned fruitful in corn and grass. It has an old ruinous chapel, dedicated to St. Turo; and has a commodious fishery. Great plenty of herrings swarm on this coast.

*Fladda Chuan*, i. e. Fladda of the Ocean, is greatly frequented during the season for fish of all sorts. Here are said to be a number of seals and whales, which pursue the young fry. It abounds with sea fowl and plovers, which come hither from Skie in the beginning of September, and return in April.

On the south-east side of this island, are some high rocks, one of which is called the *Round Table*, it being three hundred paces round, and flat at the top, where one man may at the pass (it is said) keep off five hundred, since only one can climb the rock at a time. There are abundance of other little isles in the neighbourhood, that abound with pasturage and fish of all kinds, particularly cod and ling.

*Berrera*, has some corn ground, and plenty of fish and wild fowl. The natives preserve the latter by salting them with the ashes of sea-ware, and putting them up in cows-hides. Strangers who resort hither from the Northern Islands, meet with a very hospitable reception; but whether it arises from their poverty, or some suspicion, yet they never suffer above one to lodge in a family. The natives are very dexterous in climbing the rocks, for sea fowl and eggs. Mr. *Martin* says, that the inhabitants of this and the neighbouring islands, apply to the Laird of it, for husbands and wives, when he names the persons with due regard to their circumstances, gives them a bottle of whisky for their marriage feast, and if their cattle fall by the severity of the seasons or otherwise, he provides them with a fresh supply; he also maintains his old tenants,

tenants, who are past labour. While the Laird or the Steward is upon the island, the natives (he says) never go a fishing, for fear that seeing the plenty of fish they take, they might raise their rents.

*Waterfa* is separated from the last by a narrow channel. It has a safe harbour, capable of many ships, and those of the greatest burthen. In the proper season it is frequented by a great number of fishing vessels.

*Brodic Castle*, is seated on an eminence, amidst flourishing plantations, above a bay open to the east. It has been greatly modernized, so that at present it does not bear much the appearance of a castle. It is inhabited by the Duke of Hamilton's Agent. This fortress is very ancient, and said to have been held by the English under Sir John Hastings, in the year 1306, when it was surprized by the partizans of Robert Bruce, who put the garrison to the sword. In the reign of James II. in 1456, the Earl of Ross demolished it, but it is said to have been rebuilt by James V. and garrisoned in the usurpation of Oliver Cromwell.

As we have spoken but slightly of this island in the former part of our work, we shall here insert a more full and particular account of its history, government, &c. from *Pennant*.

“*Arran*, or properly *Arr-inn*, or the Island of Mountains, seems not to have been noticed by the antients, notwithstanding it must have been known to the Romans, whose navy from the time of Agricola, had its station in the Glota *Æstuarium*, or the Firth of Clyde: *Camden* indeed makes this island the Glota of Antonine, but no such name occurs in his Itinerary; it therefore was bestowed on Arran, by some of his commentators.

“By the immense cairns, the vast monumental stones, and many reliques of Druidism, this island must

must have been considerable in very antient times. Here are still traditions of the hero Fingal, or Fin-mac-coul, who is supposed here to have enjoyed the pleasures of the chase; and many places retain his name: but I can discover nothing but oral history that relates to the island, till the time of Magnus the Barefooted, the Norwegian Victor, who probably included Arran in his conquests of Cantyre. If he did not conquer that island, it was certainly included among those that Donald-bane was to cede; for it appears that Acho, one of the successors of Magnus, in 1263, laid claim to Arran, Bute, and the Cumrays, in consequence of that promise: the two first he subdued, but the defeat he met with at Largs soon obliged him to give up his conquests.

“Arran was the property of the crown: Robert Bruce retired here during his distresses, and met with protection from his faithful vassals; numbers of them followed his fortunes; and, after the battle of Bannockbourne he rewarded several, such as the Mac-cooks, Mac-kinsons, Mac brides, and Mac-louis, or Fullertons, with different charters of lands in their native country. All these are now absorbed by this great family, except the Fullertons and a Stewart, descended from a son of Robert III. who gave him a settlement here. In the time of the Dean of the Isles, his descendant possessed Castle Douan; and “he and his *pluid*, (says the Dean) are the best men in that country.”

“The manner in which Robert Bruce discovered his arrival to his friends, is so descriptive of the simplicity of the times, that it merits notice, in the very words of the faithful old poet, historian of that great prince.

“The

“ The King then blew his horn in by,  
And gart his men that were him by,  
Hold them still in privitie :  
And syn again his horn blew he ;  
James of Dowglas heard him blow,  
And well the blast soon can he know ;  
And said surely yon is the King,  
I ken him well by his blowing :  
The third time therewith als he blew,  
And then Sir Robert Boyd him knew,  
And said, yon is the King but dreed,  
Go we will forth to him good speed.

*Barbour.*

“ About the year 1334, this island appears to have formed part of the estate of Robert Stewart, great Steward of Scotland, afterwards Robert the Second. At that time they took arms to support the cause of their master, who afterwards, in reward, not only granted at their request an immunity from their annual tribute of corn, but added several new privileges, and a donative to all the inhabitants that were present.

“ In 1456, the whole island was ravaged by Donald, Earl of Ross, and Lord of the Isles. At that period it was still the property of James II. but in the reign of his successor, James III. when that monarch matched his sister to Thomas Lord Boyd, he created him Earl of Arran, and gave him the island as a portion : soon after, on the disgrace of that family, he caused the Countess to be divorced from her unfortunate husband ; and bestowed both the lady and island on Sir James Hamilton, in whose family it continues to this time, a very few farms excepted.

“ Arran is of great extent, being twenty-three miles from Sgreadan Point north to Beinnean south ; and the number of inhabitants are about seven thousand,



thousand, who chiefly inhabit the coasts; the far greater part of the country being uninhabitable, by reason of the vast and barren mountains. Here are only two parishes, Kilbride and Kilmore, with a sort of chapel of ease to each, founded in the last century, in the golden age of this island, when it was blest with Anne, Duchess of Hamilton, whose amiable disposition and humane attention to the welfare of Arran, render at this distant time, her memory dear to every inhabitant. Blessed pre-eminence! when power and inclination to diffuse happiness concur in persons of rank.

“The principal mountains of Arran are, Goatfield, or Gaoil-bheinn, or the Mountain of the Winds, of a height equal to most of the Scottish Alps, composed of immense piles of moor stone, in form of wool-packs, clothed only with lichens and mosses, inhabited by eagles and ptarmigans. Beinn-bharrain, or the sharp-pointed; Ceum-na-caillich, the step of the carline, or old hag; and Grianan-Athol, that yields to none in ruggedness.

“The lakes are Loch-jorsa, where salmon come to spawn. Loch-tana, Loch-na-h-jura, on the top of an high hill; Loch-mhachrai, and Loch-knoc-a-charbeit, full of large eels. The chief rivers are, Abban-mhor, Moina-mhor, Slaodrai-machrai and Jorsa; the two last remarkable for the abundance of salmon.

“The quadrupedes are very few: only otters, wild-cats, shrew-mice, rabbits and bats: the stags, which used to abound, are now reduced to about a dozen. The birds are, eagles, hooded-crows, wild pigeons, staves, black-game, grouse, ptarmigans, claws, green plovers, and curlews. Mr. *Stuart*, in ascending Goatfield, found the secondary feather of an eagle, white, with a brown spot at the base, which seemed to belong to some unknown species.

It

It may be remarked, that the partridge, at present inhabits this island, a proof of the advancement of agriculture.

“The climate is very severe: for besides the violence of winds, the cold is very rigorous; and snow lays here in the vallies for thirteen weeks of the last winter. In summer the air is remarkable salubrious, and many invalids resort here on that account, and to drink the whey of goats milk.

“The principal disease here is the pleurisy: small-pox, measles, and chin-cough visit the island once in seven or eight years. The practice of bleeding twice every year seems to have been intended as a preventative against the pleurisy: but it is now performed with the utmost regularity at spring and fall. The Duke of Hamilton keeps a Surgeon in pay; who, at those seasons, makes a tour of the whole island. On notice of his approach, the inhabitants of each farm assemble in the open air; extend their arms; and are bled into a hole made in the ground, the common receptacle of the vital fluid.

“In burning fevers a tea of wood-sorrel is used with success, to allay the heat.

“An infusion of Ramsons, or *Allium Ursinum*, in brandy, is esteemed here a good remedy for the gravel.

“The men are strong, tall, and well made; all speak the Erse language, but the antient habit is entirely laid aside. Their diet is chiefly potatoes and meal; and during winter, some dried mutton or goat is added to their hard fare. A deep-dejection appears in general through the countenances of all: no time can be spared for amusement of any kind; the whole being given for procuring the means of paying their rent; of laying in their fuel,

fuel, or getting a scanty pittance of meat and cloathing.

“ The leases of farms are nineteen years. The succeeding tenants generally find the ground little better than a *caput mortuum*; and for this reason; should they at the expiration of the lease leave the lands in a good state, some avaritious neighbours would have the preference in the next setting, by offering a price more than the person who had expended part of his substance en enriching the farm could possibly do. This induces them to leave it in the original state.

“ The method of letting a farm is very singular: each is commonly possessed by a number of small tenants; thus a farm of forty pounds a year is occupied by eighteen different people, who by their leases are bound, conjunctly and severally, for the payment of the rent to the proprietor. These live in the farm in houses clustered together, so that each farm appears like a little village. The tenants annually divide the arable land by lot; each has his ridge of land, to which he puts his mark, such as he would do to any writing: and this species of farm is called *run-rig*, i. e. ridge. They join in ploughing, every one keeps a horse, or more; and the number of those animals consume so much corn as often to occasion a scarcity; the corn and peas raised being (much of it) designed for their subsistence, and that of the cattle, during the long winter. The pasture and moor land annexed to the farm is common to all the possessors.

All the farms are open inclosures of any form, except in two or three places, are quite unknown; so that there must be a great loss of time in preserving their corn, &c. from trespass. The usual manure is sea-plants, coral, and shells.

The *Run-rig* farms are now discouraged; but since the tenements are set by *Roup*, or auction, and

and advanced by an unnatural force to above double the old rent, without any allowance for inclosing; any example set in agriculture; any security of tenure, by lengthening the leases; affairs will turn retrograde, and the farms relapse into their old state of rudeness; migration will increase (for it has begun) and the rents be reduced even below their former value: the late rents were scarce twelve hundred a year; the expected rents three thousand.

The produce of the island is oats; of which above five thousand bolls, each equal to nine Winchester bushels, are sown: five hundred of beans, a few peas, and above a thousand bolls of potatoes, are annually set: notwithstanding this, five hundred bolls of oat meal are annually imported to subsist the natives.

“ The live stock of the island is three thousand one hundred and eighty-three milch cows; two thousand cattle, from one to three years old; a thousand and fifty-eight horses; fifteen hundred sheep; and five hundred goats: many of the two last are killed at Michaelmas, and dried for winter provision, or sold at Greenock. The cattle are sold from forty to fifty shillings per head, which brings into the island about twelve hundred pounds per annum: I think that the sale of horses also brings in about three hundred pounds. Hogs were introduced here only two years ago. The herring fishery round the island brings in three hundred pounds; the sale of herring-nets one hundred pounds; and that of thread about three hundred pounds, for a good deal of flax is sown here. These are the exports of the island; but the money that goes out for the mere necessaries is a melancholy drawback.

The women manufacture the wool for the cloathing of their families; they set the potatoes, and



drefs and spin the flax. They make butter for exportation, and cheefe for their own use.

“ The inhabitants in general are sober, religious, and industrious : great part of the summer is employed in getting peat for fuel, the only kind in use here ; or in building or repairing their houses, for the badness of the materials requires annual repairs : before and after harvest they are busied in the herring-fishery ; and during winter the men make their herring-nets ; while the women are employed in spinning their linen and woollen yarn. The light they often use is that of lamps. From the beginning of February to the end of May, if the weather permits, they are engaged in labouring their ground : in autumn they burn a great quantity of quen to make kelp fern. So that, excepting at New-Year’s-day, at marriages, or at the two or three fairs in the island, they have no leisure for any amusements : no wonder then at their depression of spirits.

“ This forms part of the county of Bute, and is subject to the same sort of government : but besides, justice is administered at the baron’s baily court, who has power to fine as high as twenty shillings ; can decide in matters of property, not exceeding forty shillings ; can imprison for a month ; and put delinquents into the stocks for three hours, but that only during day time.”

*Arran Isle.* The approach to this castle is magnificent, having a fine bay in the front, about a mile deep, with a ruined castle near the lower end, on a low far projecting neck of land, that forms another harbour, with a narrow passage, but within has three fathoms water, even at the lowest ebb. Beyond is a little plain watered by a stream, and inhabited by the people of a small village. The whole is environed with a theatre of mountains ;  
and

and in the back ground the scattered craigs of Grianon Athol.

The castle consists of two square parts united, built of red girt stones; there is a chimney-piece in one room, with a fire place large enough to roast an ox; but now strewed with the shells of limpets, the hard fare of the poor inhabitants, who occasionally take refuge here. It was founded by one of the Scottish monarchs, about the year 1380.

A little farther on the plain is the village of *Ronza*, with a small church in it, founded and endowed by Ann, Duchess of Hamilton, in aid of the church of Kelkride, one of the two parishes this great island is divided into.

Sharks appear in the Firth here in June, and continue till the middle of July. They commonly come in small shoals of seven or eight. *Pennant* speaks of them as an inoffensive fish, who feed either on exanguious marine animals, or an algae, nothing being ever found in their stomachs, except some dissolved greenish matter.

Mr. *Pennant* had an opportunity of seeing one that was harpooned here. It was twenty-seven feet four inches long. The tail consisted of two unequal lobes; the upper five feet long, the lower three. The circumference of the body great; the skin cornereous and rough. The upper jaw much longer than the lower. The teeth unite, disposed in numbers along the jaws. The eyes placed at only fourteen inches distance from the tip of the nose. The apertures to the gills very long, and furnished with strainers of the substance of whalebone. They are called in the Erse *Cairban*; in the Scotch, *Sail-fish*, from the appearance of their dorsal fins above water, in which manner they swim very deliberately, and seem quiescent, as if asleep;

asleep; and permit the near approach of a boat, without accelerating their motion, which, when come within contact, the harpooner strikes his weapon into the fish as near the gills as possible, but they are often so insensible, as not to stir till the united strength of two men has forced in the harpoon deeper. As soon as they perceive themselves wounded, they fling up their tail, and plunge headlong to the bottom, and frequently coil the rope round them in their agonies, attempting to disengage themselves from the weapon by rolling on the ground, for it is often found greatly bent. As soon as they discover their efforts are in vain, they swim away with amazing rapidity, and with such violence, that a vessel of seventy tons has been towed by them against a fresh gale. They sometimes run off with two hundred fathoms of line, and with two harpoons in them; and will find employ to the fishers for twelve and sometimes twenty-four hours, before they are subdued. When killed, they are either hauled on shore, or if at a distance, to the vessel's side. The liver, (the only useful part) is taken out and melted into oil, in vessels provided for that purpose. A large fish will yield eight barrels of oil, and two of sediment, and prove a profitable capture.

There is a most singular stone in this isle, which lies on the ground, it is twelve feet long, two broad and one thick, this is thought to be an amendment of the cairns the old monuments of the dead, as there is some rude sculpture at one end: meant to resemble a human body, of which the head and shoulders are still to be seen. The natives say that underneath this monument the remains of one Mac Bhrolching, a great giant is deposited.

*Duim-an-dirin*, or the ridge of the fort, is a retreat on the western shore, to which you pass this narrow cliff of a rock. It takes its name from a round

round tower that stands above. The beach is bounded by cliffs of whitish girt stone, hollowed beneath into vast caves. The most remarkable of these are, *Fin Mac-cuil*, i. e. *Fingal's Cave*, the son of Cumbal, the father of Ossian, who is said to have formerly resided in this island for the pleasure of hunting.— One of these caverns is an hundred and twelve feet long, and thirty high, narrowing towards the top like a gothic arch, near the extremity it divides into two recesses, which penetrate far; on each side are several small holes, opposite to each other: in these were placed transverse beams that held the pots, in which the heroes seethed their venison, or probably, according to the mode of the times, the bags formed of the kind of animals slain in the chace, were filled with flesh and served as kettles, sufficiently strong to warm the contents; for the heroes of old, according to *Boetius*, devoured their meat half raw, holding that the juices contained the best nourishment.

There are some rude figures, carved on the front of the division, they were intended to represent men, animals, and the *clymore*, or two handed sword. Besides these already mentioned are a number of other hollows adjacent to them, said to be the stable, cellar and dog kennel of the great *Mac-cuil*: one cave, is remarkably fine, of great extent, and covered over with a beautiful flat roof, and very well lighted by two noble and lofty arches at each end: one exhibits a beautiful perspective of the promontory *Carnbaan* or the white heap of stones, on the side of which is seen a long range of columns or rocks (not basaltic) of hard grey whin stone, resting on a horizontal stratum of red stone: at the extremity, one of the columns is insalated, and forms a fine obelisk.

On the summit of the promontory is an ancient retreat, it is secured on one side by the sea, and on the land rendered inaccessible, by a great dike of loose stones. Within is a loose stone, set erect, supposed



supposed to be the spot where the chieftain delivered his orders, or held his council. Here is a noble view of Cantyre, and the western side of Arran.

Near a small island, called *Skedda*, is the churchyard of *Shiskin*, or *Seasgain*, wherein is a tomb known by the name of St. Maol Jos' Tomb, i. e. the Servant of Jesus. The saint is represented in the habit of a priest, with a chalice in his hand. It was broken about two years ago, by some sacrilegious fellow, in search of treasure; the natives here inform you, that the crime did not go unpunished, for the person who intended the theft was visited with a broken leg.

There is another retreat for the ancient islanders, at a place called *Torr-an-Schir Castle*. It is secured by a great stone dike, which circumscribes it. In this retreat, Robert Bruce secured himself for sometime, under the protection of Mac-Louis; a descendant of this Mac-Louis resides in this island at this present time. It was originally a French family. He is one of the lesser proprietors in these parts, and has a neat, well-cultivated and thriving farm, near which are the ruins of Kirk-Michael Chapel.

At the head of Brodic Bay, is a vast stratum of coral and shells, cast up by the sea many years ago, and now covered with peat.

Not far distant from Brodic Castle is Lamloch Harbour, esteemed one of the best ports in the world. It is formed on one side by a beautiful semilunar bay: secured from the east winds by the lofty Island of Lamloch, which extends before the mouth of it; leaving on each side a safe and commodious entrance. The whole circumference is about nine miles; and the depth of water is sufficient for the largest ships. In this harbour vessels perform

perform quarantine, each of which have a guard boat at their stern.

A fine circular bason or pier was made at the bottom of the bay, by order of the good Dukes of Hamilton, but it is now entirely in ruins.

*Lamlash Island* is a vast mountain, mostly covered with heath, but has sufficient pasture and arable land to feed a few milch cows, sheep, and goats. It produces a few potatoes, and a little corn.

This island is said to have been the retreat of St. Maol Jos, from which circumstance Buchanan calls it *Molas*, or *Molassa*; it has also received the name of *Hellan Leneow*, or the Island of Saints. The natives shew you a cave, which they tell you was the residence of that holy man, they also point out his well of most salubrious water, a place for bathing, his chair, and the ruins of his chapel.

On this island was formerly a monastery. It is said to have been peopled with Cistercian monks, founded by Reginaldus, son of Somerled, Lord of the Isles, who was slain at Renfrew in 1164. Besides this was a castle belonging to the successors of that petty prince.

There are a number of cairns and heaps of stones in this island, which the learned differ in the origin of. At *Tormore*, an extensive piece of good ground, formerly cultivated, are the remains of four circles of stones, in a line, extending north-east by south-west; the inclosure is not perfect, several stones being wanting, though some of them are yet standing, of an uncommon size, and remote from each other. One is fifteen feet high, and eleven in circumference. On the outside of these circles are two others; one consists of a double circle of stones, and a mound within the lesser, differing from the general mode of these repositories for the dead. Adjoining are the reliques of a stone chest, formed of five flat stones, the length of two yards, in the inside:

inside: the lid or top is missing. In the middle of these repositories, the ancient islanders were wont to place the urn filled with the ashes of the dead, to prevent its being broken, or to keep the earth from mixing with the remains of the burnt corpse.

Not far from this is a cairn of a stupendous size, formed of great pebbles, enriched with a number of large stones.

At *Feorling* is another cairn, as big as the last, it is about fourteen feet over, very high, and has vast ridges on the sides. It is formed of stones or pebbles, brought from the shore.

Another of these monumental structures is to be found on the side of Dumfries-hill, opposite the bay of Lamash. It is not exactly of the same form as the others; but a large and oblong heap of round stones. Along the top is a series of cells, some of which are still entire, but others fallen in; a very large single flat stone covers each of these hollows, which rest on others, that stand upright, and serve as supporters.

The forming of these circles, were for religious purposes. *Boethius* relates, that Mainus, a restorer and cultivator of religion, after the Egyptian manner, instituted several new and solemn ceremonies: and caused great stones to be placed in the form of a circle; the largest was situated towards the south, and served as an altar for the sacrifice of the immortal gods. Mr. *Pennant* says, that part of their worship was the sun, which is confirmed by the situation of the altar pointed towards that luminary, in his meridian glory.

Other reasons have been assigned for these heaps of stones, than that of monumental sepulchres, some of the learned have supposed them to have been placed for the purpose of inaugurating the chieftain, who could on such places shew himself to the best

best advantage to the people, or, as others say, they were the places where judgment was pronounced. Those on the road side are said by some to be placed there in honour of Mercury, or perhaps formed in honour of some solemn compact. These reasons may hold good where stone chests and urns are wanting, but where those are found, it overthrows all the other suppositions.

“ These piles (says a learned author, we before quoted) may justly be supposed to have been proportioned in size to the rank of the person, or to his popularity: a people of a whole district assembled to shew their respect to the deceased, and by an active honouring of his memory, soon accumulated heaps equal to those that astonishes at this time. But their honours were not merely those of a day, as long as the memory of the deceased endured, not a passenger went by without adding a stone to the heap: they supposed it to be an honour to the dead, and acceptable to the manes.

Quamquam festinas, non est mora longa : licebit  
Injuncto ter pulvere, Curras.

“ To this monument there is a proverbial expression among the Highlanders, allusive to the old practice; a suppliant will tell his patron, *Curri mi clocher do charne*. I will add a stone to your memory.”\*

There was another species of honour paid to the chieftans, that is still retained in this island, but the reason is quite lost, that of swearing by his name, and paying as great respect to that, as to the most sacred oath. A very customary one in this island is by Neile; the meaning is at present unintelligible, but supposed to have been the name of some ancient here.

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Cairns

\* Dr. Macpherson.



Cairns are to be met with in all parts of our island; in Cornwall, Wales, and all parts of North Britain; they were in use among the northern nations. *Dahlberg*, in his 323d plate has given us the figure of one. In Wales they are called *Car-nedduw*; but the proverb taken from them is not of the complimentary kind. *Kana ar di ben*, i. e. a cairn on your head; as token of imprecation.

Several fossil productions are found in this island, those particularly mentioned are, an iron ore, the *Bolus Martialis* of Cronsted. A white and ponderous spar, thought to contain lead, found near Sannox. The stone called *Breccia Quarteozar* Cronsted. A fine smooth black kind of slate, the *Schistus Ardesia* of Liunæus. Another like the Cornish moor-stone, but with finer particles, the *Granites durus griseas* of Cronsted.

Besides, there are a number of very fine and large black chrystals, and a great variety of beautiful sardonxyes; and other beautiful stones, indiscriminately called Scotch pebbles.

Formerly a coal mine was worked near the cock of Arran, at the north end of the isle. The coal was found to possess all the qualities of that of Kilkenny, and was it pursued, might prove of great service, not only in restoring the salt-pans, which formerly flourished here, but would be also of great benefit to agriculture, in burning the limestone, which abounds in many places.

*Kismul* is a little island, in one of the bays on the east side of Barra, where is a castle encompassed with a stone wall, there is a tower within it with other houses. The church and chapel near it is the burial place of the family of the Macneils.

*South Vist* is mountainous and heathy on the east side, but the west is plain arable ground, and the soil being generally sandy, bears good crops of barley, oats, and rye, and abounds with cattle.

Both

Both sides have fresh-water lakes, which afford trouts. Here is also variety of land and sea fowl. The arable land has been greatly damaged by the overflowing of the lakes, several of which have small islands, some with the ruins of old forts. Ambergrease has been often found on the coast, at the south end of which there is a violent and very dangerous current. The people here live to a great age, and Mr. *Martin* mentions one, in his time, who lived to the age of an hundred and thirty. The Irish tongue is spoken here in great perfection,

*Banbecula*, is parted from the south-east by a channel, which at ebb is not above knee deep. It has an harbour for small vessels, which come hither to fish for herrings; and several fresh-water lakes, well stocked with fish and fowl, in which are islands with the ruins of ancient forts. The east side of the island is all arable, but the soil is sandy. On the west side of it is abundance of salmon. There are little chapels here, and in the times of popery here was a nunnery. There are several rocky islands in the neighbourhood, which are dangerous to sailors.

*North Vist* is separated from Benbecula to the south by several rocks, Little Island, and a channel about three miles broad. It is much indented every way by bays. Part of it is mountainous and heathy, which serves for pasturage; but the west side is plain and arable; exceedingly fruitful in barley, oats, and rye, and the fields here in summer are enamelled with clover, daisies, and here are a number of black cattle and sheep,

This, with the neighbouring islands of Benbecula and South Vist, are by some geographers reckoned, because at ebb there is an easy passage, from one to the other, either upon dry sands, or by wading upon horseback, and together they are about thirty  
three

three miles in length. They contain each a quantity of fresh-water lakes and bays, with islands, that it is impossible to enumerate them. Many of these lakes abound with fowl, sea and fresh-water fish; and cod, ling, and mackarel are brought into the fresh-water lakes by spring tides. It has an excellent harbour on the south-east side, in a bay called Lochmaddy, famous for a great fishery of cod and ling, and where such a quantity of herrings have been taken, that above four hundred ships have been laden in a season. In King Charles the First's time, a magazine for fishing was begun to be erected here, but the civil wars put an end to the design. This harbour has its name from the rocks on the south side of its entrance, abounding with large mussels, which the Highlanders call *Maddies*. It is capable of containing several hundred vessels of any burthen. In this bay are several bays, and one in particular on the south side, called Nonsuch, because ships ride here very commodiously. The natives here angle on the rocks for cuddy, herrings, and other fish.

*Loch Eport*, a little farther to the south, has another good harbour, and several islands. This lake abounds with seals, and in July the spring tides carry in abundance of mackarel, and upon their returning leave abundance upon the rocks. The common people preserve them for some time, by the ashes of a sea plant, called sea ware instead of salt.

*Heisker*, a few miles from North Vist, is very fruitful in corn and grass, and is well stocked with black cattle. The inhabitants, for want of other fuel, burn cow-dung, barley-straw, and dried seaware, and say the bread baked by the latter relishes well. They sprinkle their cheese with ashes of barley straw, for twelve hours, but do not let it  
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lie longer. This island is greatly frequented by vast numbers of seals, and the natives for want of better tackle, are said to take them by a sort of purse net made of horse-hair.

The rock *Eousmill* on the west coast of North Vist, is famous for an annual fishery of seals, about the latter end of October, so that above three hundred and twenty have been taken there at a time. These the natives season also with the ashes of sea ware, and say that they are good food, and that the flesh and broth of the young is a good pectoral, and a successful remedy in all sorts of fluxes. They use thongs made of them instead of ropes.

*Vala*, near the north-west corner of North Vist, is fruitful in corn and grass, and has three chapels.

*Lingay* furnishes the other islands with peat and fuel. Their black cattle are small, but their beef is sweet and tender. In spring they feed upon sea ware. The natives of this and the other islands salt their beef in cow-hides, and which they think keep it and give it a better taste than casks. They send a great deal of it to Glasgow, where it is barrelled up and exported to the Indies. There are also some deer in North Vist, which feed on sea ware in the winter and spring. Here are Otters, hawks and large eagles, which are very destructive to the lambs and fawns: together with pheasants, moor fowls, ptarmagans, plovers, pigeons, swans in great numbers, and all the common sea fowls in the Western Islands. Here is one sort of fowl called a calk, somewhat less than a goose; it has beautiful feathers of divers colours, that are rather to be called down, as they have no stalks. It has a tuft on its head like a peacock, and a train longer than of a house cock. There is another named gawlin, somewhat less than a duck, which always sings before good weather; and some of  
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the Highland pipers have formed a time of its notes, which the natives think good music. There is another called a rain goose, from its always making a doleful noise before heavy rains. Another very extraordinary bird is called the Bishop of Farrara, which is about the size of a goose, and has a white spot on its breast; but for the rest it is partly coloured, and its fat is used by the natives against the sciatica. There is another called goysa, as big as a swallow, which is observed to land only in the month of January, when it is supposed to hatch. It dives with exceeding swiftness, and when very great numbers are seen together, it is reckoned a certain sign of an approaching storm; but upon its ceasing, they disappear under water. The seamen call them on this account *Malisgies*, i. e. *mala effigies*, the picture of ill luck, which they often find too true. There is another bird called screachanatin, which shrieks most hideously. It is about the size of a large mull, but longer in the body, of a bluish colour; and its bill is of a carnation. It is observed to be fonder of its mate than any other fowl, for when either the cock or hen is killed, the other makes a most lamentable noise for eight or ten days after. There is one called faskidor, about the bigness of a sea mew, which flies very swift after other birds, forcing them to drop their food, which it catches before it falls to the ground. It is observed by the natives, that an extraordinary heat without rain, at the time when the sea fowls lay their eggs, makes them eight or ten days longer in laying than in warm weather accompanied with rain. The great numbers of wild geese here, are very destructive to the barley, in spite of guns, traps, &c. There are some flocks of barren fowls of all kinds, which are distinguished by not joining with the rest  
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of their species, and they are commonly seen about the bare rocks without any nests.

The natives drink large quantities of spirituous liquors to fortify them against the cold moist air; the greatest snow falls with the west winds, but seldom continues above three or four days. The ordinary snow falls with the north and north-west winds, and it lies deepest on the tops of the mountains. The frost continues till the spring is far advanced, when 'tis so severe that it kills great numbers of trouts and eels in the rivers and lakes; but the winter frosts have not this effect, because, as the inhabitants think, the rains being more frequent in October, carry the juice of the plants into the lakes, &c. which nourishes the fish in winter; but in the spring the water running with an uninterrupted stream, carries the juice with it into the sea, whereby the fish in their rivers, being deprived of that nourishment, die; they are the more confirmed in this opinion, by observing that the fish in the lakes and marshes, outlive both the winter and spring frosts. The east-north-east winds always bring fair weather in all the north-west islands, and the rains are most frequent here in October and February.

The diseases that are most rife here, are fluxes, fevers, pleurifies, coughs, sciaticas, megrims, and the small pox but once in seventeen years. In fevers they take away a good deal of blood, and against diarrhoeas they use strong aqua vitæ, with the flesh and liver of seals, and milk, wherein the hectic stone has been put red hot. The natives are not only very hospitable and healthful, as has been observed, but are generally well proportioned, of a middling stature, and of a good complexion.

To the north-west are a cluster of rocks rather than islands, whereof the principal is St. Kilder or Kirta. It received its first name from one Kilder, who

who lived here, and the last from Jer, which in the Irish language signifies west. It lies directly west from the isles of North Vist, Harries, &c. It is faced all around with a steep rock, except the bay on the south-east, where is an old fort. It has several fountains of good water, and produces oats and the largest barley in the western isles, and their sheep have longer horns. The land here rises high in the middle, and there is one mountain higher than all the rest. It is good for pasturage, as is also *Soa* and *Borrera*, the first about half a mile from St. Kilda, the last about two leagues north; they abound with sea-fowl from March till September, here are such vast numbers of Solon geese, that the inhabitants commonly keep great flocks of them young and old in their little storehouses, of which there are some hundreds for keeping their fowls, eggs, &c. which latter they preserve some months in the ashes of peat. These geese come hither in March with a south-west wind; they stay here till September, build on high rocks, live on fish, make their nests and hatch by turns. Mr. Martin was told by the steward of St. Kilda, that he found in some of their nests a brass sun-dial, arrows, and molucca beans; they go a fishing to islands above thirty miles distance, and carry five or six herrings entire in their gorgets, which they cast out to feed their young. The natives make a pudding of their fat, which they put into the stomach of the birds, and boil in water-gruel, as a specific against coughs. The fat is also found to be an excellent vulnerary, and their eggs eat raw are a good pectoral. These geese are reckoned the sharpest sighted of all sea-fowls. When they fish for herrings they fly about sixty yards high, and descend perpendicularly, because they swim in shoals, and are more easily caught, but after other fish they descend obliquely. They sleep with their heads under their wings,

wings, and one is said always to keep watch; but if that be surprized by the fowler, which is often the case, the rest are easily taken by the neck, one after another; they are less than land geese, and their colour commonly white, except the tips of their wings, which are black, and the tops of their heads, which are yellow. For the rest we refer to what we have said of the Bass Island.

Here is another bird called the Fulmar, of a grey colour, and of the size of a moorhen. It has a strong bill, with wide nostrils, and never goes to sea but with a west wind. It is supposed to pick its food out of live whales, and that it eats sorrel, both these sorts of food being found in its nest. When any one goes near this bird, it spouts out of its bill a great deal of pure oil; therefore the natives, who surprize the bird by gins, are said to receive the oil in vessels, and not only burn it in their lamps, but use it with success for the dispersing aches and tumours, and for purging and vomiting.

The inhabitants are subject to four diseases; but when a stranger comes ashore and stays among them, they are sure to have a cough, infants at the breast not excepted; and sometimes they have a leprosy, which Mr. Martin ascribes to their eating so much sea-fowl without salt. Both sexes have a genius for poetry. They have no money, but barter with one another for the necessaries of life. The people here are very plain, simple in their manners, exact in their properties, strangers to vice, and live contentedly in a village on the east side of the island, in low thatched houses of stone, cemented with earth, and secured against the winds by ropes of straw or heath, poised at the end with stones. They make their beds in the walls of their houses, and lie on straw, though they have such great plenty of down and feathers, and they lodge their cattle in the same house in spring and winter. They have a large  
D d boat,



boat, which they use in common, wherein they go out a fishing, or to bring cattle or fowl from the neighbouring isles. They are dexterous at climbing the rocks for fowl and eggs, of which they bring home some mornings twenty-nine large baskets, all full of eggs, the least of which contains four hundred big eggs, and the rest above eight hundred lesser ones. They climb with ropes secured all round with cows hides salted, to preserve them from being cut by the edge of the rock. Bachelors frequently venture their lives by their climbing to win the love of their sweethearts. Here are fine eagles and hawks, which fly many leagues for their prey; but pigeons and plover are their only land-fowl. The richest man in the island has not above a dozen cows, an hundred sheep, and four or five horses. There were but eighteen of the latter when Martin visited this island, and those employed in bringing home their peats and turf. On All Saints day they make use of store-houses for a cavalcade by turns, without any other accoutrements than an halter. On this festival also they bake a large cake, which must be all eaten that night. The women are very well shaped, and many of them comely; but a pound of horse-hair to make fowl-traps is their real portion. The inhabitants are said to be perfectly religious, strict observers of the sabbath, sincere and kind to strangers, and charitable to their own poor.

*Lewis and Harries*, which are separated by a narrow channel and some islands, from North Vist to the south, are commonly reputed two islands, whereas they are but one. They lie most to the north-west of all the islands of Scotland, are commonly called the Long Island by the natives, are divided by several narrow channels, and distinguished by several proprietors, as well as their several names,

names, made part of the diocese of the isles, and abound with lakes of fresh water. That strictly called Lewis, is generally reckoned healthy, the air being temperately cold and moist. The soil is arable for about sixteen miles on the west coast, and in some places on the east, but is generally sandy, except the heaths, which is partly of red and partly of black clay, whereof their women make vessels for boiling their meat and preserving their ale.

The soil produces chiefly barley, oats, rye, flax and hemp. Their manure is sea-ware and foot, and they are so industrious in cultivating the ground, that about five hundred are daily employed for some months in digging, turning up, and covering the soil; their harrows, which have little wooden teeth, are drawn by a man, having a strong rope made of horse-hair across his breast. They make usquebaugh, aqua vitæ, and other liquors of their corn. All their coasts and bays abound with corn, ling, herrings, and all other fish taken in the western islands, but the fishery is very much interrupted by the whales, of which the young ones are eat by the common people, who reckon them very good food. Their bays afford plenty of shell-fish, as clums, oysters, cockles, muscles, lym pits, wylkes and spout fish, of which last they have such multitudes once in seven years, that the inhabitants fatten the grounds with them. The bays and coasts afford great quantities of small coral, and their fresh water lakes abound with trout and eels. They have several springs and fountains of odd qualities, as one that never whitens linnen, and another that never boils meat, though kept a whole day on the fire. There are many caves on the coast, which shelter great numbers of land and sea-fowl, otters and seals, which last they reckon nourishing food. Here are several natural and artificial forts, and heaps of stones upon heaths, supposed as before-mentioned,

mentioned, to be monuments of persons of note formerly killed in battle. The cows here are small but fruitful, and their beef tender. The horses likewise are little, but as good for the plough as the larger sort, though they have nothing to feed upon in the spring but sea-ware; their sheep are exceedingly fat and have long horns. Here are also a number of goats.

The inhabitants are of a good proportion and stature, generally of a light brown or ruddy complexion, healthy, strong, long-lived, and of a sanguine constitution. The small-pox is very fatal to young people here, but it seldom visits the island; the most common disease here is a cough; they are in general ingenious and acute, have a mechanical genius; though several of both sexes are skilled in the poetry and music of the islands; they are very hospitable but very poor; they are dexterous at arching, swimming, and hunting, are stout seamen, and will tug a whole day at the oar, with only bread, water, and snuff to support them. Once every summer they visit the neighbouring islands, and make a great purchase of fowls, eggs, down, feathers, and quills. As soon as they come ashore, they turn round with the sun, uncover their heads, and thank God, and reckon it a heinous crime to ease nature where the boat lies.

The island of Harris, properly so called, has the same soil, air and product as Lewis, but is more fruitful. The east coast is generally rocky and mountainous, covered with grass and heath. The west coast is far the most profitable; but some parts of the hills on the east side are quite naked without any earth to cover them. The sea-ware thrown upon the dry land makes the soil fruitful. The grass on the west side is mostly clover and dairy.

Here are many creeks and fresh-water lakes, which abound with trout, eel, and salmon. Each lake

lake has a river from it to the sea; from whence the salmon comes about the beginning of May, and are commonly caught by angles with worms or cockles. Variety of excellent springs flow from its mountains, whose water is found very good against a foul stomach, cholic, stiches, and gravel. There are in those mountains, and also on the coast, several caves, the largest of which is Ulweal, in the middle of a high rock, which has so strait a passage, that only one at a time can enter. It is large enough to hold fifty men, and has two wells. There are several forts said to be erected by the Danes, besides a fort in every one of the lesser islands. There are heaps of stones on the tops of the hills, where they were used to burn heath as the signal of an approaching enemy; and at each heap there used to be a centinel to watch the coast, and the steward of the island made frequent rounds to observe them. There is said to be a vast number of deer in the hills and mountains here, commonly called the forest, which is eighteen miles from east to west, where none is permitted to hunt without a licence from the steward or forester. Here are those animals called *Meertruks*, a sort of civet cat, with a fine brown skin, whose dung smells like musk. Here are otters and seals, which the natives take with nets tied by a rope to the strong sea ware, growing on the rocks. Here is variety of land and sea fowl, good hawks, and two sorts of eagles, one grey the other black. Little vipers are the only venomous creatures upon the island, of which there are great plenty. They had formerly rats, which destroyed all their provisions, and overpowered the cats, which they killed by numbers, but the latter at length routed the former.

Mr. Martin takes notice of a chace or forest in Lewis Island, called *Orvaul*, which consists of mountains



mountains and valleys, and affords good pasture for deer, black cattle and sheep. It is surrounded by the sea except about one mile at the west side. There is no shelter here for the deer, which when the frost and snow continue long, are obliged to feed upon sea-ware.

*Tirchy*, an island eight leagues west of Jona, derives its name from *Tire*, a country and *Ly*, an Isthmus: An etymology, which seems to be favoured by the rocks in the narrow channel. It being low and moorish, the inhabitants are subject to an ague, yet it abounds with corn, cattle, fish, and fowl, and is reckoned the most plentiful of all the islands. It has a good harbour for boats, and several fresh water lakes; in some of which are islands and old ruinous castles. It is almost cut through the middle by bays, and part of it is sometimes overflowed by the tides. Here are those called hectic stones, which the natives heat and put into their ale to make it strong; and for the same purpose they toast barley and malt cakes. They keep their drink in large earthen vessels, and preserve their yeast by an oaken withy which they twist and put into it, and then keep it in barley straw. Their houses and cattle are small, and often reduced in the winter and spring to eat sea-ware. Mr. Martin says, some years before he wrote, about an hundred and sixty young whales were drove ashore in this island in a time of scarcity, and were food for the inhabitants. Here is one parish church, several forts, and there is a cave in the south west part, where in the night-time the inhabitants take abundance of cormorants. They are all Protestants, though they speak the Irish language. It is a dangerous coast for rocks, banks, and violent tides.

*Loch-nevish*, or the Lake of Heaven, is a fine and picturesque inlet. *Pol-morrer* is another bay where small craft may lie. About half a mile inland from

it is *Loch-monar* : and next is the county of *Arisaig* and its celebrated points.

*Loch-nanua*, or the Bay of Caves is a little to the south, and noted for the landing of the young Pretender, in July 25 1745. The two frigates that lay here in May of the same summer, with arms and ammunition, had an engagement off this point with two of oars ; and maintained their station, they had landed part of their forces, but finding the cause desperate, returned to France with several of the fugitives from the battle of Culloden.

*Lismore* or *Lessimore*, is situate at the mouth of *Loch Nel*, a bay that runs up to Inverlochy. It is about nine miles long, one mile and an half broad, and contains nine hundred souls. The soil is extremely fertile, and produces oats and bear, the parts that are not arable, are filled with the tips of sheep, and craggy precipices just peeping above the surface. The land is in general low, and the strata limestone.

The cattle here are said to have degenerated, as the skull of an ox was dug up here, which appeared to be of much larger dimensions than any in Great Britain.

There was formerly a monastery here, the church now standing is a mean modern building, here are two or three tombs in the church-yard, with representations of Clymore engraven on them. A remarkable tomb is also taken notice of, which consists of a large log of oak. On a live rock is cut the radi of a dial, but the index is missing. On another rock is a small excavated bason, perhaps one of the rock basons mentioned by Doctor Borlase, which was made use of for religious purposes, in the times of Druidism.

It was formerly a bishop's see, dis-joined from that of Dunkeld about the year 1200 at the request of *John the Englishman*, bishop of the diocese. No remains

remains either of the cathedral or the bishop's palace are at present standing.

Here are the remains of a Danish fort: the present height of it is seventeen feet; there is a gallery within the wall, and round the area a seat, like that described in the account of the Isle of Ilay.

The bank of *Loch-nel* hill near here forms a most beautiful crescent partly cultivated and partly covered with weeds to the very summit. This hill, with the house of Aird's, the castle of Ellenskalker, beyond the county of Appin; the vast mountains of Lochaber, Dannolly, Lismore, and various other isles of a grotesque and romantic appearance, afford the eye a most delightful view from the water.

Those who go from hence to Scarba, sail between the islands of Inch and Mair, and leave the noted Slate Island of Eusdale on the east, and close to Suil and Luìng, chiefly the property of the Earl of Bredalbane.

Opposite to Luìng, is a group of rough little islands, of which Plada and Belne here are productive of slate. Between these and Luìng is a broad basin, where runs a most rapid and violent tide, which carries vessels along with great force and swiftness, even when the weather is calm the whole surface appears one scene of confusion, eddies and whirlpools rising with furious boilings, which are again lost in the rapidity of the current.

The island of *Scaba*, is one vast mountain of a prodigious height, about five miles long, chiefly covered with heath, but on this side are some woods and marks of cultivation. It contains forty inhabitants, the proprietor Mr. Maclean resides here. The gulph of *Corry-vrekan* is one of the remarkable curiosities of this craggy precepice. This phenomenon is thus described: "The channel between this isle and Jura is about a mile broad, exposed to the weight of the Atlantic, which pours in its waters  
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here with great force, their course being directed and confined by the sound between Colonlay and Mull. The tide runs with a furious current, great boilings, attended with much foam; and in many places form considerable whirlpools. This foam forms various colours, which has given it the name of *Coire-bbreaccain*, or the spotted or plaided cauldron.

The chief whirlpool lies on the Scarba side, near the west end. Here, as that skilful pilot, Mr. Murdoch Mackenzie, assures us, it is of various depths, viz. thirty-six, forty-seven, eighty-three, and ninety-one fathoms; and in some places unfathomable: the transitions sudden from the lesser to the greater depths: the bottom all sharp rocks with vast chasms between; and a fathomless one where the greatest vortex lies, from which, to the eastern end of Scarba, close to shore, the depths are thirteen, nine and twelve.

There is another whirlpool off a little isle, on the west end of Jura: which contributes to the horrors of the place. In great storms the tides run at the rate of fifteen miles an hour; the height of the boilings are said to be dreadful; and the whole rage of the waters inexpressible. It is not therefore wonderful that there should have been here a chapel of the Virgin, whose assistance was often invoked, for our historian says, that she worked numbers of miracles, doubtlessly in favour of distressed mariners.

*Eusdale*, the noted slate island, is about half a mile long, and composed entirely of slate, intersected, and in some parts covered with whin-stone, to the thickness of sixteen feet: the stratum of the slate is thirty-six, dipping quick, south-east to north-west. In order to be raised, it is first blasted with gunpowder; the greater pieces are then divided, carried off in wheel-barrows, and lastly,

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cut into the merchantable service, from eighteen by fourteen inches, to nine by six. About two millions and an half are sold annually to England, Norway, Canada, and the West Indies. In the slates are multitudes of cubic *pyrite*. In one place above sixteen feet above high water-mark, just over the slates, is a thick bed of fragments, worn smooth, as if by the action of the waves; and mixed with them are a multitude of common sea-shells: a proof of the vast retreat of the ocean in these parts.

Besides this, are a number of other good slate quarries in the neighbourhood, as on the isles of Suil, Luring, Baluahau and Kenua, and some few opposite to them on the coast of Nether Lorn.

*Ardmaddie*, or the Height of the Wolves, is a beautiful bay. In the front of which stands a small but elegant house, belonging to Captain Archibald Campbel, tenant here to the Earl of Bredalbane. The sides of the bay are high, and covered entirely with wood.

There are a number of other small islands, of which nothing particular is spoken, we shall therefore conclude our account of the whole, by a few observations from *Martin*, *Pennant*, and others, on the former depredations of the Highlanders; the great advantage that will be derived by introducing a proper knowing of agriculture; the preservation and security of the fishery; and pursuing the present mode of civilizing many of the still rude and unpolished inhabitants, &c.

“ The great change in the morals of the Highlanders is strongly visible. Security and civilization possess every part; yet thirty years have not elapsed since the whole was a den of thieves, of the most extraordinary kind. They conducted their plundering excursions with the utmost policy,  
and

and reduced the whole art of theft into a regular system. From habit it lost all the appearance of criminality: they considered it as labouring in their vocation; and when a party was formed for any expedition against their neighbour's property, they and their friends prayed as earnestly to heaven for success, as if they were engaged in the the most laudable design.

"The constant petition at grace of the old Highland chieftains, was delivered in great fervour in these terms: "Lord! turn the world upside down, that Christians may make bread out of it." The plain English of this pious request was, That the world might become, for their benefit, a scene of rapine and confusion.

"They paid a sacred regard to their oath; but as superstition must, among a set of banditti, infallibly supercede piety; each, like the distinct casts of Indians, had his particular object of veneration: one would swear upon his *dirk*, and dread the penalty of perjury; yet make no scruple of forswearing himself upon the bible: a second would pay the same respect to the name of his chieftain: a third again would be most religiously bound by the sacred book: and a fourth regard none of the three, and be credited only if he swore by his crucifix. It was always necessary to discover the inclination of the person, before you put him to the test: if the object of his veneration was mistaken, the oath was of no signification.

The greatest robbers were used to preserve hospitality to those who came to their houses, and, like the wild Arabs, observed the strictest honour towards their guests, or those that put implicit confidence in them. The Kennedies, two common thieves, took the young Pretender under protection, and kept him with faith inviolate, notwithstanding

standing they knew an immense reward was offered for his head. They often robbed for his support, and to supply him with linen, they once surprized the baggage horses of one of our general officers. They often went in disguise to Inverness, to buy provisions for him. At length, a very considerable time after, one of these poor fellows who had virtue to resist the temptation of thirty thousand pounds, was hanged for stealing a cow, value thirty shillings.

“ The greatest crime among these felons was that of infidelity among themselves: the criminal underwent a summary trial, and, if convicted, never missed of a capital punishment. The chieftain had his officers, and different departments of government; he had his judge, to whom he entrusted the decision of all civil disputes: but in criminal causes, the chief, assisted perhaps by some favourites, always undertook the process.

“ The principal men of his family, or his officers, formed his council; where every thing was debated respecting their expeditions. Eloquence was held in great esteem among them, for by that they could sometimes work on their chieftain to change his opinion; for, notwithstanding he kept the form of a council, he always reserved the decisive vote in himself.

“ When one man had a full claim on another, but wanted power to make it good, it was held lawful for him to steal from his debtor as many cattle as would satisfy his demand, provided he sent notice (as soon as he got out of reach of pursuit) that he had them, and would return them, provided satisfaction was made on a certain day agreed on.

“ When a *creach* or great expedition had been made against distant herds, the owners, as soon as discovery

discovery was made, rose in arms, and with all their friends, made instant pursuit, tracing the cattle by their track, for perhaps scores of miles. Their nicety in distinguishing that of their cattle from those that were only casually wandering, or driven, was amazingly sagacious. As soon as they arrived on the estate where the track was lost, they immediately attacked the proprietor, and would oblige him to recover the track from his land forwards, or to make good the loss they had sustained. This custom had the force of law, which gave to the Highlanders this surprizing skill in the art of tracking.

“ It has been observed before, that to steal, rob and plunder with dexterity, was esteemed as the highest act of heroism. The feuds between the great families was one great cause. There was not a chieftain but that kept, in some remote valley, in the depth of woods and rocks, whole tribes of thieves in readiness to let loose against his neighbours; when, from some public or private reason, he did not judge it expedient to resent openly any real or imaginary affront. From this motive, the greater chieftain-robbers always supported the lesser, and encouraged no sort of improvement on their estates but what promoted rapine.

“ The greatest of the heroes in the last century, was Sir Ewin Cameron. He long resisted the power of Cromwell, but at length was forced to submit. He lived in the neighbourhood of the garrison fixed by the usurper at Inver-lochyl. His vassals persisted in their thefts, 'till Cromwell sent orders to the commanding officer, that on the next robbery he should seize on the chieftain, and execute him in twenty-four hours, in case the thief was not delivered to justice. An act of rapine soon happened: Sir Ewin received the message; who, instead



instead of giving himself the trouble of looking out for the offender, laid hold of the first fellow he met with, sent him bound to Inver-lochy, where he was instantly hanged. Cromwell, by this severity, put a stop to these excesses, till the time of the restoration, when they were renewed with double violence, till the year 1745.

“ Rob-Roy Mac-gregor was another distinguished hero in the latter end of the last, and the beginning of the present century. He contributed greatly towards forming his profession into a science; and establishing the police above mentioned. The Duke of Montrose unfortunately was his neighbour: Rob-Roy frequently saved his Grace the trouble of collecting his rents; used to extort them from the tenants, and at the same time gave formal discharges. But it was neither in the power of the Duke or of any of the gentlemen he plundered to bring him to justice, so strongly protected was he by several great men to whom he was useful. Roy had his good qualities: he spent his revenues generously; and strange to say, was a true friend to the widow and orphan.

“ Every period of time gives new improvement to the arts. A son of Sir Ewin Cameron refined on those of Rob-Roy, and instead of dissipating his gains, accumulated wealth. He, like Jonathan Wild the Great, never stole with his own hands, but conducted his commerce with an address, and to an extent unknown before. He employed several companies, and set the more adroit knaves at the head; and never suffered merit to go unrewarded. He never openly received their plunder; but employed agents to purchase from them their cattle. He acquired considerable property, which he was forced to leave behind, after the battle of Culloden gave the fatal blow to all their greatness.

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“ The last of any eminence was the celebrated Barrisdale, who carried these arts to the highest pitch of perfection : besides exalting all the common practices, he improved that article of commerce called the Black-Meal to a degree beyond what was ever known to his predecessors. This was a forced levy, so called from its being commonly paid in meal, which was raised far and wide on the estate of every nobleman and gentleman, in order that their cattle might be secured from the lesser thieves, over whom he secretly presided, and protected. He raised an income of five hundred a year by these taxes ; and behaved with genuine honour in restoring, on proper consideration, the stolen cattle of his friends. In this he bore some resemblance to our Jonathan ; but differed, in observing a strict fidelity to his own gang ; yet he was indefatigable in bringing to justice any rogues that interfered with his own. He was a man of a polished behaviour, fine address, and fine person. He considered himself in a very high light, as a benefactor to the public, and preserver of general tranquillity, for on the silver plates, the ornaments of his baldrick, he thus addresses his broad-sword.

Hæ tibi erunt artes, pacis componere mores ;  
 Parcere subjectis et debellare superbos.

The inhabitants of these islands are in some measure greatly divested of their superstition, yet there are a number still remaining, among the rest, the power of fascination is strongly believed, especially where the natives imagine that the *Evil-eye* affects both the milch-cows and the lambs, but the latter more strongly than the former. If any good housewife perceives the effect of the malicious on any of her

her kine, she draws as much milk as she can from the enchanted head, this small quantity of milk, which the supposed witch has left, she boils up with certain herbs; after that she secures the door, and invokes the three sacred persons. This they think puts the witch into such tumult and agony, that she comes forced by the charm to the house, begs admission, to obtain relief by touching the all-powerful pot: the good woman then makes her terms, the witch restores the milk to the cattle, and in return is freed from farther pains.

Though this method is tried by some to overturn the power of the *Evil eye*, yet sometimes the trial is performed by immersing in milk a certain herb, and if the cows are supernaturally affected, it instantly distills blood.

Unsuccessful lovers likewise have a potent charm to revenge themselves on their happy rivals; the unfortunate youth takes three threads of different colours, and ties three knots in each, three times imprecating the most cruel disappointments in the marriage-bed: The bridegroom apprized of this design against his happiness, has recourse to a charm against his antagonist's, immediately flies to the altar, stands there with an untied shoe, and puts a sixpence beneath his foot; this he thinks an infallible preventative against the cruelty of the disappointed lover.

Mr. Pennant mentions the present of a stone to him, called *Clack Crubain*, which is said to cure all pains in the joints. They have a number of others of these enchanted pebbles, for disorders, preventatives, &c.

Second sight is greatly pretended to by many particular families, some will strongly affirm, their power of hearing the hammering of nails into a coffin before the death of a relation or friend, while others

others among the good women have the *powerful* faculty of foreseeing events through a well-scraped blade-bone of mutton. These old female pretenders to foresight, during their inspiration, fall into trances, foam at the mouth, grow pale, and feign to abstain from food for a month, so overpowered they pretend to be by the visions imparted to them during their paroxysms.

The superstitious inhabitants of some of the most rude and romantic parts, have figured ideal beings, amidst these darksome and horrible scenes. Formerly, when they were not so enlightened as at present, they imagined a dreadful spectre haunted the hills in Inverness, sometimes in form of a great dog, a man, or thin gigantic hag, called *Glass-lish*. The exorcist was called to drive away this evil genii; he formed circle within circle, used a multitude of charms, forced the demon from ring to ring, till he got it into the last entrenchment, when if it proved very obstinate, by adding new spells, he never failed to conquer the evil spirit.

So far did their superstition prevail, that a tragical affair happened similar to that of Tring. About three years ago a woman lived in this neighbourhood, of more than common strength of understanding. She was often consulted on the ordinary occurrences of life, obtained a sort of respect, which excited the envy of another female in the same district. The last gave out that her neighbour was a witch; that she herself had a good genius, and could counteract the evils dreaded from the other; at length she so worked on the minds of the simple vulgar, that they determined on destroying her, and effected their purpose by instigating a parcel of children to strangle her. The murder was enquired into, but the inciters had so artfully concealed themselves, that they escaped the research, and no punishment was inflicted,



except what was suited to the tender years of deduced children.

Though the Western Islands were never exceedingly populous, yet at present it is greatly depopulated, which is chiefly owing to the epidemic emigrations. The cause of this may be easily assigned; allured by prospects of foreign countries, far different from their own rough and unfertile rocks and bogs, they cheerfully quit the abode of their ancestors. This emigration to America is an object worthy of the consideration of the government, and the continuance of the measures to encourage agriculture, and promote trade and commerce in these parts, may be an effectual means to put a stop to this migrating contagion.

The fishery in these islands should have the greatest attention paid to it. The Dutch, who annually come here with their busses, look on the herring fishery so valuable a branch of commerce, that they have in their public edicts called it the *Golden Mine*, and they affirm it to be more profitable to them, than the Indian mines are to Spain.

“ Mr. *Anderson* gives to the Scotch a very early knowledge in the herring fishery, who says, that the Netherlanders resorted hither to these coasts as early as the year 836, to purchase salted fish of the natives; but imposing on the strangers, they learned the art, and took up the trade, in after times of such immense emolument to the Dutch.

“ Sir Walter Raleigh’s observations on that head, extracted from the same author, are extremely worthy the attention of the curious, and excite reflections on the vast strength resulting from the wisdom of well-applied industry.

“ In 1603, remarks that great man, the Dutch sold to different nations, as many herrings as amounted

amounted to one million seven hundred and fifty-nine thousand pounds sterling.

“ In the year 1615, they at once sent out two thousand buffes, and employed in them thirty-seven thousand fishermen.

“ In the year 1618, they sent out three thousand ships, with fifty thousand men, to take the herrings, and nine thousand more ships to transport and sell the fish, which, by sea and land, employed a hundred and fifty thousand men, besides those first mentioned. All this wealth was gotten on our coasts; while our attention was taken up in a distant whale-fishery.

“ The Scottish monarchs for a long time seemed to direct all their attention to the preservation of the salmon-fishery; probably because their subjects were such novices in sea affairs. At length James III. endeavoured to stimulate his great men to these patriotic undertakings; for by an act of his third parliament, he compelled “ Certain Lords spiritual and temporal, and boroughs, to make ships, buffes and boats, with nets and other pertinentes for fishing. That the same should be made in each burgh; in number according to the substance of each burgh, and the least of them to be of twenty ton: and that all idle men be compelled by the sheriffs in the country to go on board the same.”

“ But his successors, by a very false policy, rendered this wise institution of little effect; for they in a manner prevented their subjects from becoming a maritime people, by directing, that no white fish should be sent out of the realm, but that strangers may come and buy them; that free ports be first served; the cargoes sold to the freemen, who were to come and transport the same. The Dutch at this very time having an open trade.

“ It

“ It is well known that there have been many attempts made to secure this treasure to ourselves, but without success : in the late reign a very strong effort was made, and bounties allowed for the encouragement of British adventurers : the first was of thirty shillings per ton to every buss of seventy tons, and upwards. This bounty was afterwards raised to fifty shillings per ton, to be paid to such adventurers who were entitled to it by claiming it as the places of rendezvous. The busses were from twenty to ninety tons burden, but the best size is eighty. A vessel of eighty tons ought to take ten lasts, or an hundred and twenty barrels of herrings, to clear expences, the price of the fish to be admitted to be a guinea a barrel : a ship of this size ought to have eighteen men, and three boats : one of twenty tons should have six men ; and every five tons above, require an additional hand.

“ To every ton are two hundred and eighty yards of net ; so a vessel of eighty tons carries twenty thousand square yards : each net is twelve yards long, and ten deep ; and every boat takes out from twenty to thirty nets, and puts them together, so as to form a long train : they are sunk at each end of the train by a stone, which weighs it down to the full extent : the top is supported by buoys, made of sheep-skin, with a hollow stick at the mouth, fastened tight ; through this the skin is blown up, and then stopped with a peg, to prevent the escape of the air. Sometimes these buoys are placed at the top of the nets ; at other times the nets are suffered to sink deeper, by the lengthening the cords fastened to them, every cord being for that purpose ten or twelve fathoms long. But the best fisheries are generally in more shallow water.

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“ The nets are made at Greenock, in Knapdale, Bute, and Arran ; but the best are procured from Ireland, and, I think, from some part of Caernarvonshire.

“ The fishing is always performed in the night, unless by accident. The busses remain at anchor, and send out their boats a little before sun-set, which continue out, in winter and summer, till day-light ; often taking up and emptying their nets, which they do ten or twelve times in a night, in case of good success. During winter, it is a most dangerous and fatiguing employ, by reason of the greatness and frequency of the gales in these seas, and in such gales are the most successful captures ; but by the providence of heaven the fishers are seldom lost ; and what is wonderful, few are visited with illness. They go out well prepared, with a warm great coat, boots and skin aprons, and a good provision of beef and spirits. The same good fortune attends the busses, who in the tempestuous season, and in the darkest nights, are continually shifting in these narrow seas from harbour to harbour.

“ Sometimes eighty barrels of herrings are taken in a night by the boats of a single vessel. It once happened in Loch-Slappan, in Skie, that a buss of eighty tons might have taken two hundred barrels in one night, with ten thousand square yards of net ; but the master was obliged to desist, for want of a sufficient number of hands to preserve the capture.

“ The herrings are preserved by salting, after the entrails are taken out ; an operation performed by the country people, who get three halfpence per barrel for their trouble ; and sometimes, even in the winter can gain fifteen-pence a day. This employs both women and children, but the salting  
is



is only entrusted to the crew of the buffes. The fish are laid on their backs in the barrels, and layers of salt between them. The entrails are not lost, for they are boiled into an oil; eight thousand fish will yield ten gallons, valued at one shilling the gallon.

“A vessel of eighty tons takes out a hundred and forty-four barrels of salt: a drawback of two shillings and eight-pence is allowed for each barrel used for the foreign or Irish exportation of the fish; but there is a duty of one shilling per barrel for the home consumption, and the same for those sent to Ireland.

“The barrels are made of oak staves, chiefly from Virginia; the hoops from several parts of our own island, and are made either of oak, birch, hazel, or willow: the last from Holland, liable to a duty.

“The barrels cost about three shillings each; they hold from five to eight hundred fish, according to the size of the fish; and are made to contain thirty-two gallons. The barrels are inspected by proper officers; a cooper examines if they are statutable and good; if faulty he destroys them, and obliges the maker to stand to the loss.

“The herrings in general are exported to the West Indies, to feed the negroes, or to Ireland, for the Irish are not allowed to fish in these seas. By having a drawback of five-pence a barrel, and by re-packing the fish in new barrels of twenty-eight gallons, they are enabled to export them to our colonies at a cheaper rate than the Scots can do.

“The trade declines apace; the bounty, which was well paid, originally kept up the spirit of the fishery; but for the last six years the arrears have been very injurious to several adventurers, who  
have

have sold out at at thirty per cent. loss, besides that of their interest.

“ The migration of the herrings has been fully treated of in the third vol. of the British Zoology : I shall therefore only mention the observations that occur to me in this voyage, as pertinent to the present place.

“ *Loch-Broom* has been celebrated for three or four centuries as the resort of herrings. They generally appear here in July : those that turn into this bay are part of the brigade that detaches itself from the western column of that great army that annually deserts the vast depths of the arctic circle, and come, heaven-directed, to the seats of population, offered as a cheap food to millions, whom wasteful luxury or iron hearted avarice hath deprived, by enhancing the price, of the wonted supports of the poor.

“ The migration of these fish from their northern retreat is regular : their visits to the western isles and coasts, certain : but their attachment to one particular loch, extremely precarious. All have their turns ; that which swarmed with fish one year, is totally deserted the following ; yet the next loch to it be crowded with the shoals. These changes of place give often full employ to the buffes, who are continually shifting their harbour in quest of news respecting these important wanderers.

“ They commonly appear here in July ; the latter end of August they go into deep water, and continue there for sometime, without any apparent cause : in November they return to the shallows, when a new fishery commences, which continues till January ; at that time the herrings become full of roe, and are useless as articles of commerce. Some doubt, whether these herrings that  
appear

appear in November are not a part of a new migration ; for they are as fat, and make the same appearance, as those that composed the first.

“ The signs of the arrival of the herrings are flocks of gulls, who catch up the fish while they skim on the surface ; and of gannets, who plunge and bring them up from considerable depths. Both these birds are closely attended to by the fishers.

“ Cod-fish, haddocks, and dog-fish, follow the herrings in vast multitudes ; these voracious fish keep on the outsides of the columns, and may be a concurrent reason of driving the shoals into bays and creeks. In the summer they come into the bays generally with the warmest weather, and with easy gales. During winter the hard gales from north-west are supposed to assist in forcing them into shelter. East winds are very unfavourable to the fishery.

“ In a fine day, when the fish appear near the surface, they exhibit an amazing brilliancy of colours ; all the various coruscations that dart from the diamond, sapphire, and emerald, enrich their tract : but during night, *if they break*, i. e. play on the surface, the sea appears on fire, luminous as the brightest phosphorous.

“ During a gale, that part of the ocean which is occupied by the great shoals, appear as if covered with the oil that is emitted from them.

“ They seem to be greatly affected by lightning : during that phænomenon they sink towards the bottom, and move regularly in parallel shoals one above the other.

“ The enemies that assail these fish in the winter season are varied, not diminished : of the birds, the gannets disappear ; the gulls still continue their persecutions ; whales, pollacks and porpoises are  
added

added to their number of foes : these follow in droves ; the whales deliberately, opening their vast mouths, taking them by hundreds. These monsters keep on the outside, for the body of the phalanx of herrings is so thick as to be impenetrable by these unwieldy animals.

“ The herring fishers never observe the remains of any kind of food in the stomachs of that fish, as long as they are in good condition : as soon as they become foul or poor, they will greedily rise to the fly, and be taken like the whiting-pollack.

“ They do not deposit their spawn in sand, or mud, or weeds, like other fish, but leave it in the water, suspended in a gelatinous manner, of such a gravity as prevents it from floating to the surface, or sinking to the bottom. The fishermen discover this by finding the slimy matter adhering to the hay ropes sometimes in use to hold the stone that sinks the nets, the middle part being slimed over, the top and bottom clear.

“ Before I leave this bay it must be observed, that there are here as in most of the lochs, a few, a very few of the natives who possess a boat and nets ; and fish in order to sell the capture fresh to the buffes : the utmost these poor people can attain to are the boat and nets ; they are too indigent to become masters of barrels, or of salt, to the great loss of the public as well as themselves. Were magazines of salt established in these distant parts ; was encouragement given to these distant Britons, so that they might be enabled, by degrees to furnish themselves with the requisites for fishing, they would soon form themselves into seamen, by the course of life they must apply themselves to ; the buffes would be certain of finding a ready market of fish, ready cured ; the natives taught industry, which would



be quickened by the profits made by the commodity, which they might afford cheaper, as taken at their very doors, without the wear and tear of distant voyages, as in the present case. Half of the hands employed now in fishing and curing generally come out as raw seaman as the inhabitants of these parts: they do not return with much greater experience in the working of a ship, being employed entirely in the boats, or in salting of the herrings, and seem on board as awkward as marines in comparison of able seamen. A bounty on these home captures would stimulate the people to industry; would drive from their minds the thoughts of migrations; and would never lessen the number of seamen, as it would be an incitement for more adventurers to fit out vessels, because they would have a double chance of freight, from their own captures, and from those of the residents, who might form a stock from shoals of fish, which often escape while the former are wind-bound, or wandering from loch to loch.”\*

\* Pennant.

A brief

A

Brief A C C O U N T

O F

The Rise, Progress and Extinction  
of the REBELLION raised in  
SCOTLAND, in the year 1745.

**I**N compliance with the request of some of our correspondents, we shall insert a concise account of the rebellion in Scotland.

In the summer of the year 1745, it was known, that some preparations were privately making for an expedition into Scotland; and a principal officer in the French navy raised a company of a hundred men, under pretence of the East India Company's service, which were stiled GRASSINS DE MER, and were handsomely clothed in blue, faced with red. They were put on board a frigate carrying eighteen guns; and, every thing being ready, the eldest son of the Pretender, who had been for sometime before

fore in France, came privately to Port Lazare, in Britany, where, on the 14th of July, he embarked with about fifty Scots and Irish, in order to land in the south-west of Scotland.

This frigate of his was joined off Belleisle by the Elizabeth, a man of war of sixty-six guns, which had been taken from us by the French, and was now extremely well manned for this purpose. In their passage she fell in with a fleet of English merchantmen under convoy of three men of war, one of which, viz. the Lion, commanded by the gallant Capt. Brett, engaged the Elizabeth for nine hours; but soon after the engagement began, the frigate bore away, and continued her intended voyage. The Elizabeth, when night came on, made a shift to get away, and returned to Brest quite disabled, having her captain and sixty-four men killed, and an hundred and thirty dangerously wounded. She had on board a large sum of money, and arms for several thousand men.

The frigate cruised for some days between the islands of Bara and Uist, and at last stood in for the coast of Lochaber, and there landed, betwixt the islands of Mull and Sky, the young Chevalier and his attendants. He went first to the house of Mr. Macdonald of Kenloch-Moidart, where he remained for sometime before he was in any condition to shew himself in public; but, about the middle of August, being joined by the Camerons of Lochiel, the Macdonalds of Glengary, the Stuarths of Appin, and others of the clans, to the number of between fifteen hundred and two thousand men, he resolved to set up his standard. This was accordingly done, and the motto he made choice of was TANDEM TRIUMPHANS, that is, At length Triumphant.

About

About the middle of August, he appeared with his forces in the neighbourhood of Fort William, and about this time published many of his father's manifestoes; among which was one dated in 1743, which plainly shewed that an invasion was then intended; another in 1745, declaring his son regent; and a third, containing large promises to the people of Scotland. Soon after, two companies of St. Clair's regiment fell in with the rebels, whom they were sent to reconnoitre, and were most of them taken prisoners, as Capt. Sweatnam of Guise's regiment was soon after; but he was released upon his parole; and it was from this gentleman the first distinct accounts were obtained of the force, disposition, and design of the rebels, who began then to think themselves strong enough to march Southward,

Lieutenant-General Sir John Cope, commander in chief of the King's forces in Scotland, drew together the troops then in that kingdom, armed the militia, and took such other precautions as he thought requisite: and at length judged it expedient to march Northward, in order to find out the enemy, supposing that they would either wait for him at the Chain, which is the name usually given to the great road cross the island from Inverness to Fort William, or endeavour to meet and fight him in his passage; but they did neither: for while the General made a long and fatiguing march to Inverness, the rebels gave him the slip, and instead of marching through the pass of Corryeroch, they took the way over the mountains, seized Perth, on the 4th of September, and on the 5th proclaimed the Pretender there; the person called the Duke of Perth, the late Marquis of Tullibardin styling himself Duke of Athol; Lord George Murray, his brother, and several others, joining and declaring for him;

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by which their numbers so much increased, that on the 11th they began their march towards the Forth, which river they forded at the Frews on the 13th, and summoned Glasgow, but receiving no answer, they on the 14th directed their march eastward towards Edinburgh.

Mean time Sir John Cope reached Inverness, from whence he dispatched orders for transports to be sent him to Aberdeen, in order to bring his forces back by sea to the port of Leith; and with this view he marched with all possible expedition from Inverness to Aberdeen, where he embarked his men; and, on the 16th of September, entered the harbour of Dunbar, where the next day the men landed, and on the 18th, the artillery. They were scarce well ashore, before they had advice of the city of Edinburgh being in the hands of the rebels, with whom the Lord Provost and some other magistrates had a kind of treaty on the 16th in the evening; and, terms being settled, the rebels entered the place the next morning about five o'clock. General Guest had retired into the castle, with a small number of regular troops; the bank, and most of the public offices having been removed into that fortress before. Brigadier Fowke, with Gardiner's and Hamilton's dragoons, having joined Sir John Cope's army, they, on the 19th, marched from Dunbar, and encamped at night on the west-side of Haddington; the next morning early they continued their march, and in the evening reached Preston-Pans, the Highlanders appearing on the high grounds to the south of them, so they were very near each other.

Some firing passed through the night. Sept. 21st in the morning, about three o'clock, they attacked the King's troops; and the dragoons, breaking on the last fire, left the foot exposed to the Highlanders, by whom, after a short dispute, they were defeated,  
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a considerable number killed, and the best part of the rest made prisoners, the few field-pieces they had with them being likewise taken. This is by some called the battle of Preston-Pans, by others the battle of Seaton, from two little towns near which it was fought.

The rebels, on the 28th, sent out parties to Haddingtoun and Dunbar, and their prisoners to Perth; and, on the 29th, began to take their measures for cutting off all communications between the castle of Edinburgh and the town; which, considering that they wanted heavy artillery, and indeed all other requisites for a siege, was a very needless and wild attempt.

On the first of October, they opened their trenches on the Castle-hill, a little below the reservoir; upon which the castle fired upon them, killing three men, and wounding a commanding officer; so that by four in the afternoon they abandoned their works.—The city of Glasgow being summoned a second time, and fifteen thousand pound, being demanded by way of contribution, they were constrained to compound the matter for five thousand guineas, which were immediately paid. Hostilities continued between the garrison of the castle of Edinburgh, and the rebels, till the fifth in the evening: when, several houses being beat down by the artillery, and the rebels having lost twenty men in an attempt to drive part of the garrison from the Castle-hill, the communication between the town and castle was restored, and hostilities ceased.

On the seventh, the rebels demanded half a crown in the pound from the landlords of houses in Edinburgh, under pain of military execution. About the middle of this month, they were joined by considerable reinforcements under the command of several persons of distinction, particularly old Gordon  
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of Glenbuckter, Forbes Lord Pirnigo, the Earl of Kilmarnock, and others. They likewise received from abroad considerable supplies of ammunition, military stores, small arms, and some field-pieces. There was also one Mr. Boyer, or, as he stiled himself, Marquis de Guilles, came over in one of these vessels from France, as an agent, whom they dignified with the title of ambassador. Towards the latter end of the month a great part of their army marched to Dalkeith, to which place they removed their field-pieces and ammunition; and having erected a battery at Alloway, to secure the passage of the Frith, they transported, from Montrose, Stonehive, and other places, the supplies they had received from abroad, and made other dispositions to march southward.

Mean time Field-marshal Wade, commander in chief of the army intended for the north, began to move that way with his forces; consisting of some English regiments, both horse and foot, together with the Dutch auxiliaries, and a train of field artillery, while a body of British troops, under the command of the Earl of Albemarle, landed at Newcastle. The Tryal sloop likewise brought into Bristol, a Spanish ship, on board of which were two thousand five hundred Fusils with Bayonets, and one hundred barrels of gunpowder, seven chests of money, &c. designed for the service of the rebels. By this time likewise the militia in the northern counties were raised, and associations and voluntary contributions set on foot in most parts of the kingdom.

In the county of York particularly, through the timely vigilance and zeal of the Archbishop (Dr. Thomas Herring) assisted by the nobility and gentry, four new regiments were raised, clothed and disciplined, at the expence of the county. There was  
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likewise a considerable body of gentlemen volunteers on horseback, stiled the Royal Hunters, who served at their own expence, put in motion under the command of Major General Oglethorpe. In Scotland, the Lord President of the Court of Session, Duncan Forbes, Esq. distinguished himself by his zeal and activity, in distributing commissions for raising several independant companies in the north; which were to be put under the command of the Earl of Loudon; so that by the end of the month there was an army of fourteen thousand men formed in the north of England, and a very considerable body raised in the north of Scotland, for the security of Inverness, Fort William and other garrisons there: which military preparations, joined to the loyal spirit which shewed itself in all parts of the nation, and more particularly at London, very probably disappointed the designs of the disaffected, hindered many from joining the rebels, and even drew off some, who had gone to Edinburgh with that resolution.

On the 1st of November the young Chevalier came to the camp at Dalkeith, and there fixed his head-quarters, as lying very conveniently, either for sending spies, or detachments, to see what was doing in the North of England. He had, however, but cool encouragement, some refusing to read his letters, and several of his emissaries being seized at Newcastle, Berwick, and other places. He detached two advanced corps from thence, one of which marched towards Pennycook, and the other to Loanhead, both places being in the way to Peebles and Carlisle: these detachments escorted their baggage and ammunition; and on the 5th, their force began their march southwards in three columns.

At this time the Duke of Perth (as he stiled himself) had the title of General; Lord George Murray had the post of Lieut. Gen. Lord Elcho, who

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was eldest son to the then Earl of Weyms, commanded those that were about the person of the young Pretender, and were stiled his life-guards; the Earl of Kilmarnock acted as Colonel of Hussars; and Lord Pittligo had the command of the Angus horse.

But though, in regard to their interests, these people were honoured with those commands, it was known, that the Pretender confided entirely in a few persons, most of whom came over with him. At the head of his councils was Sir Thomas Sheridan, who had been long about him; an Irish gentleman, of a middle age, and reputed a man of capacity; Col. Sullivan, who had been a little while in the French service, and was somewhat of an engineer; General Macdonald, an Irish officer, who was his aid de camp: Mr. Kelly, who was so long in the Tower on the affair of Atterbury Bishop of Rochester; and Mr. Murray of Broughton, who acted all along as his secretary. The number of men that the young Pretender had with him at this juncture, seems to have been about seventy thousand; some of whom, when they considered the dangers to which they were exposed, deserted. But, notwithstanding this and other disappointments, the rebel chiefs, continuing firm in their first resolution, began to pass the Tweed on the 6th, and the same day their advanced guards entered England.

His Excellency Field-marshal Wade was by this time arrived at Newcastle, had formed the King's army there, and would have marched to fight the rebels, if he had not found it necessary to be first informed, whether they really intended to invade England, and which route they meant to take, that of Newcastle or Carlisle. He caused likewise a declaration to be published, promising pardon to such of the Highlanders, as returned to their duty by the

12th of November ; and took such precautions for the security of the adjacent county, as obliged the rebels, who were too far advanced to think of retreating into Scotland, to throw themselves into the western road, to which their people in general, and most of their chiefs, seemed at first to be least inclined.

The rigour of the season, their late forced marches, and a kind of flux among the soldiers, retarded the operations of the King's troops for some time ; but good quarters, proper refreshments, and the extraordinary care of their officers, soon overcame those difficulties, and put the army into so good a condition, as enabled them to go through the winter campaign with fewer inconveniencies, and much less loss than could have been reasonably expected, considering the great hardships, and excessive fatigues to which those corps particularly that had served all the summer in Flanders, had been exposed.

On the 7th of November the rebel army advanced to Halyhaugh, and from thence sent out parties to scour the adjacent country. On the 8th, they came to Langton, and on the 9th they appeared on a moor two miles from the city of Carlisle. This place was formerly very strong, and considered as a bulwark against the Scots. The best part of its old walls were standing ; and the castle, though an ancient irregular fortress, had such remains of strength, that in the opinion of Colonel Durand, who commanded there, it was tenable against a better army than that of the rebels. In point of force there was the whole militia of the two counties of Cumberland and Westmoreland, and some invalids in the castle ; so that, when the young Pretender summoned them, they absolutely refused to give up the place ; upon which the rebels filed off towards Brampton, where they spent some time in consulting what was to be done.

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It is said, that the officers were inclined to march on; but the men shewing a desire to return to Carlisle, it was not judged adviseable by their superiors to cross their inclinations: and therefore, after cutting a great deal of wood for fascines and scaling-ladders, in Corby and Warwick parks, they, on the 13th, began to move back towards Carlisle. The place, in all probability, might even then have made a defence; but the threats of the rebels had such an effect, that the white flag was hung out, and the town capitulated on the 15th, and the castle too was given up; but the governor took care to withdraw, as disliking the terms, and persisted in his first opinion, that the place might have been defended. Thus this city fell into the hands of the rebels, who immediately caused the Pretender to be proclaimed, and put a garrison into the castle, under the command of the duke of Perth.

As soon as Marshal Wade had intelligence at Newcastle of the route which the rebels had taken, he resolved, notwithstanding the severity of the season, to march from thence to the relief of Carlisle; and accordingly on the 16th, the army began to move for that purpose. His Excellency intended to have begun his march, as soon as it was light; but moving from the left, the Swiss troops had the van, which delayed their motions several hours, to the great prejudice of the expedition; for the weather being excessively cold, attended with a deep snow and an hard frost, the troops suffered very much. The Major-Generals Howard and Oglethorpe, and the Brigadiers Cholmondeley and Mordaunt, marched on foot at the head of the infantry to encourage the soldiers. It was eight at night, and very dark, before the front line got into the camp at Ovington; and though the soldiers marched with great chearfulness, yet,  
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the roads being terribly broken, and full of ice, it was foreseen, that many of the last column might drop through excessive fatigue; and therefore the Major-Generals Huske and Oglethorpe sent out countrymen with lights and carts, to assist the rear-guard, and bring up the tired men; in which service they were employed till near nine the next morning.

On the 17th, the Marshal continued his march to Hexham, where he arrived with the first line about four in the afternoon; but the rear of the army did not come up till near midnight. His Excellency, having intelligence that Carlisle had surrendered, resolved to march back to Newcastle; but the weather continuing bad, and the roads being become in a manner impassable, he did not arrive there with the army, till the 22d; and even then the forces under his command were so excessively fatigued, that, if it had not been for the great care taken of them by the people of Newcastle, who shewed the utmost zeal and affection in providing them quarters, they must have been in a great measure ruined by this fatiguing march.

This invasion of the rebels having thrown all the northern and north-western parts of the kingdom into great confusion, directions were given for forming another army in Lancashire. The city of Chester was also put into a condition of defence, in a surprising short space of time, by the care and diligence of the Earl of Cholmondeley. At Liverpool likewise, all necessary precautions were taken, and the inhabitants of that town shewed all the spirit and resolution that could be desired.

The rebels did not continue long at Carlisle; for on the 19th the young Pretender made his entry into that city, and on the 20th his forces continued their march to Penrith, from whence they advanced, on the



the 22d, to Kendall; moved from thence to Lancaster on the 24th; and on the 27th reached Preston. They were at Wigan and Leigh on the 28th; and in the afternoon of the same day an advanced party entered Manchester, where they began to beat up for volunteers, but with much less success than they expected, though some few people joined them; and they had likewise picked up some persons of desperate fortune in their march; but however, nobody of any rank or distinction came in, which, without doubt, was a great disappointment; for they had flattered themselves with the hopes of a considerable insurrection in their favour.

On the 29th, the main body of their army moved towards Manchester, and about ten in the morning their horse entered the town, and the bell-man was sent about to require all such as had any public money in their hands to bring it in. About two in the afternoon the young Pretender, at the head of a considerable body of picked Highlanders, and in their dress marched into Manchester, and was proclaimed. In the evening the bell-man was again sent about to order the town to be illuminated, and at night the rear of their army arrived; but, tho' they had demanded quarters for ten thousand men, it was judged they never had in Manchester, above half that number.

On the 30th of October a part of the rebel army marched for Stockport, and the rest for Knutsford: they carried off all the horses they could meet with in the neighbourhood of Manchester; at night several parties crossed the river Mersey at different places, over bridges made of trees and planks laid across, in framing of which they compelled the country people to assist them. It is very remarkable, that in their whole progress, no discoveries could be made of the routes they intended to take, because they were never given out above an hour before

before their march began ; and neither officers nor soldiers knew over night, whither they were to go, or what service they were to perform, the next morning : which secrecy, in all probability, preserved them from destruction ; since, however formidable they might be at a distance, those who saw them at Manchester, and other places, were very far from thinking they made a dreadful appearance.

In the mean time the Duke of Cumberland's army was forming in Staffordshire : for upon the approach of the rebels, it was resolved, that his Royal Highness should be sent down to command the forces in that part of the kingdom ; and accordingly he arrived at Litchfield on the 28th of November ; that army being supposed to consist of upwards of twelve thousand men, well furnished with artillery, and making a fine appearance.

The army under the command of Field-Marshal Wade, began to move towards the latter end of the month, the cavalry having reached Darlington and Richmond by the 25th ; and on the 29th, Marshal Wade, with the infantry, was at Persbridge ; from whence he proposed to march to Wetherby, and to canton the whole army in the adjacent villages ; looking upon this as the most convenient situation, either for distressing the enemy, in case they should attempt to retire, or for co-operating with his Royal Highness's forces, as occasion should require. By these well-concerted dispositions, all apprehensions of danger were in a great measure taken off, and the country-people began every where to recover their spirits, and to put themselves in the best posture of defence they could, for fear of being visited by these Highland invaders. Such was the situation of things at the close of November ; and we now return to the progress of the rebels so long as they continued to persist

persist in their wild design of advancing into South Britain.

On the first of December, the young Chevalier, with the main body of his army, and all his artillery, entered Macclesfield; and at this time the greatest part of the rebels really expected an engagement, as appeared by their scaling, firing, and putting in order their pieces all the afternoon and evening of that day. But what were the true intentions of the Chevalier, and his councils of war, it is impossible to say, since at first it was believed, they intended to march into Wales; but perceiving that if they should accomplish that scheme, they should certainly be shut up there, and reduced to great necessities in a mountainous country, with which they were not acquainted, they abandoned this project as impracticable. On the second, about two thousand of their foot passed by Gowsforth, and about the like number of horse and foot entered Congleton; and the next day, these two great bodies of their forces advanced, one of them to Leek, and the other to Ashburn, within fifteen miles of Derby.

“ On the 4th in the morning, the Pretender’s son entered Derby with near five thousand horse, and about two thousand foot; and in the evening the rest of their forces, their artillery, and baggage, arrived there likewise; but with all the precaution possible, to hinder any exact account from being taken of their numbers; which was a point they laboured with the utmost diligence during the whole march. On their first coming into Derby it was judged, both from the measures they took, and from the behaviour of their chiefs, that they were still disposed to march on. In the evening, however, they held several councils of war, in which the disputes among their chiefs rose so high, that they could not be concealed; yet they agreed upon

upon nothing that night, except levying the public money, which they did with unusual circumstances of terror and violence. The next day they continued at Derby, and about noon another great council was held, in the presence of the young Pretender, in which a final resolution was taken of returning back into Scotland.

It was observed by the people of the houses, where their principal commanders lodged, that, upon the rising of this last council, their chiefs looked very dejected; and that some of them railed at the French and Irish about the young Pretender, and others made no scruple of saying they were betrayed. This is certain, that, whatever was the matter, they were thence forward always diffident of each other; and that the Pretender himself was afterwards not much considered, and but indifferently obeyed.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, at the head of the King's forces, took all imaginable pains to force the rebels to a decisive engagement; and when that was found impossible, to hinder their march into North Wales, or to alarm the nation by continuing their incursion, and advancing farther into the heart of the kingdom. In order to effect the former of these purposes, his Royal Highness advanced to Stone, upon the first advice of the rebels being at Congleton; but when it appeared, that their true design was to march to Derby, the King's forces moved towards Northampton, to intercept them in their route Southwards; and having been informed that the rebels had possessed themselves of Swarkston-bridge, his Royal Highness encamped on the 6th with the greatest part of the forces on Meriden Common, between Coleshill and Coventry.

In the mean time his Excellency Field Marshal Wade had marched the army under his command



to Wetherby, where he encamped on the 5th : and the same day orders were given for the horses and dragoons to proceed to Doncaster, whither the foot were to follow them. These dispositions afforded sufficient reasons for the rebels to retreat, since whoever considers them attentively, will find, that, in the first place, it would have been very difficult for them to have proceeded farther, without meeting with, and being obliged to fight, the Duke's army, which was what they never designed; and, on the other hand, if they had succeeded in their scheme, and by some means or other continued their march, without coming to a battle, it must have ended in their absolute ruin, since a delay of two or three days would have rendered their retreat northward altogether impossible.

Before we proceed farther, it is requisite to observe, that the second son of the Pretender being arrived in France, there were about this time vast preparations made for the invasion of this kingdom : and though by the timely and prudent precautions taken by the Lords of the Admiralty, they were prevented, yet they occasioned a great deal of confusion, and proved, in that respect, of some service to the rebels; but, in another sense, they were of service to the nation, since they not only kept alive, but heightened that spirit of zeal and loyalty, which had appeared from the breaking out of the rebellion, and of which all ranks and degrees of people gave at this time such lively testimonies, as were sufficient to convince even our enemies, that his late Majesty reigned in the hearts and affections of his subjects, as well as over their persons.

Yet, in North Britain, the flame of rebellion began again to spread itself, by the assistance of the French; for Lord John Drummond having landed  
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with about five hundred men at Aberdeen, Peterhead, and Montrose, he was very soon joined by that body which Lord Lewis Gordon had been raising in the north, as well as by others of the disaffected clans, such as the Mackenzies, the Mackintoshes, the Farquharsons, and the Frasers, to the number of between two and three thousand men; with which forces he drew down towards Perth, about the time the young Pretender was at Derby. The Earl of Loudon, who was at the head of a small body of men for the King's service in the North, spared no pains or diligence in exciting the well affected clans to join him; and by the reinforcements he received from the Macleods, the Grants, the Monroes, the Sutherlands, and the Guns, he was soon two thousand strong. At Edinburgh likewise, and at Glasgow, they began to raise men for the service of the government, with great cheerfulness and success; so that two good regiments were completed, besides several independent corps; as will be seen more at large, when we speak of the measures taken by the government, in North-Britain, to suppress the rebellion.

After the rebels had raised all the money they could on the town of Derby, they set about prosecuting their resolution of endeavouring to retire into Scotland by the same road they came; and accordingly marched, on the 6th of December 1745, to Ashburn, from whence they moved the next day to Leek, destroying, in their passage, whatever they judged might be of use to the King's forces that were in pursuit of them; and, shewing a warm spirit of resentment for the disappointments they had met with, thereby provoking the country-people to do them all the mischief they could. They carried with them a train of artillery, consisting

sisting of fifteen small pieces of cannon, and one mortar.

On the 8th in the evening their vanguard reached Manchester; and the next morning the young Chevalier, and the main of his forces, came thither, where they were not received as they had been before; but, on the contrary, the town's people, or at least the mob, gave them some pretty visible marks of their dislike; which was immediately punished by an order or precept in the name of the Chevalier, and signed and sealed by Mr. Murray, his Secretary, directed to the constable and collector of the land-tax for the towns of Manchester and Salford, requiring them to collect and levy, by the next day at noon, the sum of two thousand five hundred pounds, to be paid to the said Mr. Murray, with a promise of re-payment, however, when the country should be peaceably settled under his government.

On the 10th, they continued their march by Pendleton Pole towards Leigh and Wigan, which last place they reached on the 11th, and pushed on from thence to Preston the next day; being extremely apprehensive of finding themselves surrounded in that neighbourhood. On the 13th in the morning, they quitted Preston, and continued their route to Lancaster; and, on the 14th, they moved from thence to Kendal, which they entered about ten in the morning, and where they met with a bad reception; for the town's people fired upon their hussars, killed one, and took two prisoners. Their van-guard continued their march from thence to Shap, in their way to Penrith; but, seeing the beacons every where lighted, and being informed that it was done to raise the country, and that the people were disposed to fall upon them on all sides, they thought proper to return to Kendal, which

which they accordingly did about two in the morning.

On the 15th, the Pretender, with all his forces, arrived there, and began to march from thence for Penrith on the 16th, by break of day; Lord George Murray commanding the rear guard, as he had done during the whole march. They intended to have reached Penrith that night, but, finding it impracticable, they thought fit to halt at Shap, where we shall leave them for the present, that we may better give the reader an account of the motions of the King's forces, in order to overtake them.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, having certain intelligence, on the 7th of December, that the highlanders had begun to move northward, put himself the next morning at the head of all the horse and dragoons, with one thousand volunteers, in order to follow the rebels from Meriden, and stop them till the foot came up. On the 9th, Sir John Ligonier marched with the brigade of guards, and the regiment of Sempil, to Litchfield, pursuant to his Royal Highness's instructions.

On the 10th, the Duke arrived at Macclesfield with two regiments of dragoons, having a body of one thousand foot at no great distance, from whence he sent orders to Manchester, and other parts of the country, that nothing might be neglected, that could contribute to retard or distress the enemy. On the 11th, Major Wheatly was detached with an advanced party of dragoons to harraß the rear of the rebels, and to join the light-armed troops that were expected from the other army.

His Excellency Field-Marshal Wade, having received certain intelligence of the proceedings of the rebels, and of the situation of his Majesty's forces under the command of his Royal Highness, held, on the 8th of December, a great council of war at Ferry-



Ferry-bridge, to consider of the most effectual means for cutting off the highlanders in their retreat; and in this council of war, it was resolved to march directly by Wakefield and Hallifax into Lancashire, as the most likely way of intercepting them. But, arriving at Wakefield on the 10th, and having advice that the main body of the rebels was at Manchester, and their van-guard moving from thence towards Preston; his Excellency, finding that it was now impossible to come up with them, judged it unnecessary to fatigue the forces by hard marches; and therefore detaching Major-General Oglethorp, on the 11th, with the cavalry under his command, he began his march with the rest of his forces, for Newcastle.

On the 13th, a great body of the horse and dragoons, that were, as has been said, under Major-General Oglethorp, arrived at Preston, having marched one hundred miles in three days, over snow and ice; which was a noble testimony of zeal and spirit, especially in the new-raised forces. His Royal Highness arrived about one at the same place, and immediately gave his orders for continuing the pursuit of the rebels with the utmost diligence. On the 14th, accordingly, General Oglethorp advanced towards Lancaster, which place they reached on the 16th; General Oglethorp continuing his pursuit at the heels of the rebels. On the 17th, the Major-general was at Shap, and his Royal Highness entered Kendall, having now more hopes of coming up with the enemy, than at any time during the march; and the dispositions made by the duke for this purpose, were such, as shewed not only the greatest intrepidity, but also the utmost penetration, and military capacity.

On Wednesday the 18th of December in the evening, part of the cavalry, with his Royal Highness, came up with the rebels, after ten hours march,

march, a little beyond Lowther Hall, which they had quitted on the approach of the King's forces, and threw themselves into the village of Clifton, about three miles from Penrith; where they had great advantages from the situation of the place, and from some decayed broken walls, which served them instead of retrenchments. His Royal Highness, however, caused the village to be immediately attacked, by the first force that came up, which were the King's own regiment of dragoons, and part of the Duke of Kingston's horse, who behaved extremely well upon this occasion; and in an hour's time drove them out of the place, though a very strong and defensible post.

While their rear-guard was engaged with the King's forces at Clifton, the main body of the rebels were at Penrith, and so apprehensive of being overtaken, that at ten o'clock at night they ordered their artillery and baggage to advance towards Carlisle; and on the 19th in the morning, they entered that city, excessively fatigued, and in much confusion. The rebels did not continue long there, but contented themselves with putting a sort of garrison into the place, composed of between four and five hundred men, most of them being those that had joined them in England, and which they had formed into a corps under the title of the Manchester regiment.

The main body of their army continued their march towards Scotland, passing the river Esk, though very high, which cost many of them their lives: and on the 20th and 21st they again entered North Britain, leaving those they had thrown into Carlisle to shift for themselves as well as they could, and without any hopes of succour. These pretended, at first, that they would make an obstinate defence; and, having most of their artillery with them, they mounted them on the walls, took pos-  
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session of the castle, and carried into it all the provisions they could find, leaving the inhabitants little or none to sustain themselves with; so that they were in the utmost distress, being able to draw no relief from the adjacent country, because the people were sensible, that whatever they sent them would be taken from them by the rebels. They did not, however, continue long in this deplorable condition, being relieved from it by the speedy arrival of the King's forces, who soon put an end to the dispute, and restored the people of Carlisle to the King's protection, the rebels in the castle being obliged to surrender at discretion; but not till cannon was brought up, and the necessary dispositions made for besieging them.

While the rebels were doing the business of the French in the north, vast preparations were still made on the coast of France and French Flanders, for invading this kingdom; and the informations which the government received of their embarkation, particularly at Dunkirk, induced his Majesty to give such directions as were necessary for appointing proper alarm-posts, at which the troops were to assemble, and such signals as were requisite for assembling them; and at the same time a proclamation was issued, commanding all officers, civil and military, to cause the coasts to be carefully watched, and, upon the first approach of the enemy, to direct all horses, oxen, cattle, and other provisions, to be driven and removed twenty miles from the place where the enemy should attempt to land; and such regiments of regular troops as were at this time quartered in and about London, were ordered down to the coasts of Kent and Sussex.

These wise and timely precautions, joined to the zeal and spirit shewn by the gentlemen, clergy, and other inhabitants of the maritime counties, had so good an effect, together with the diligence used by  
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the officers of his Majesty's navy, that served on board the squadron then in the channel, that the designs of the French were totally defeated, notwithstanding they frequently changed their schemes.

As Lord John Drummond, Lord Lewis Gordon, and the rest of the rebel chiefs in Scotland, were all this time labouring with great diligence, as well as much violence, to draw together a considerable force, in order to join the Pretender on his return into that country; the King's loyal subjects there shewed the greatest zeal and spirit, in exerting their utmost endeavours to raise troops to oppose them. The city of Glasgow particularly distinguished itself, upon this occasion, by levying fifteen companies of sixty men each, at their own expence; and having completed them by the beginning of the month of December, they marched from thence, under the command of the Earl of Hume, for Stirling.

The city of Edinburgh, also, having received his Majesty's licence for that purpose, raised one thousand men for the King's service; and the Earl of Loudon, with the forces under his command, marching from Inverness, obliged a body of the rebels to raise the blockade of Fort Augustus, which they had formed under the command of the son of Lord Lovat; and, at the same time, the Macleods and Monroes scoured all the north of the rebel parties, as far as to within twelve miles of Aberdeen. Such were the transactions in South and in North Britain to the close of the year 1745, when the rebels, having been obliged to fly out of England, began again to gather strength in the west of Scotland, and to resume their design of attacking Stirling Castle.

The rebels, having passed the river Esk, divided into two bodies; the lesser, consisting of about two thousand men, marched, on the 20th of December,



to Ecclefeckan, and from thence the next day to Moffat. The larger body, of about four thousand, proceeded to Annan, near the sea-side, and, on the 21st, marched to Dumfries; and, having obliged the town of Dumfries to pay them one thousand one hundred pound, and to give hostages for nine hundred more, they arrived on the 25th at Glasgow.

In the mean time the northern rebels, under Lord John Drummond, Lord Lewis Gordon, the master of Lovat, and some other of their chiefs, having with them some artillery, ammunition and money, which had been landed from on board some Spanish privateers, arrived at Perth, which they fortified for a place of arms, fitting out an armed sloop there, as they did the Hazard, which they had lately taken, and another stout privateer at Montrose.

The young Pretender entered Glasgow at the head of all his forces, and had thereby the inhabitants at his mercy, the regiment they had raised being at Edinburgh, and they entirely defenceless. But, how sensible soever they might be of their danger, they did nothing contrary to their duty to deliver themselves; on the contrary they shewed very visible signs of sorrow and sadness; and the Chevalier, though he often appeared in public, was scarce attended so much as by a mob.

It is not at all surprizing, that the behaviour of the rebels at Glasgow, these provocations considered, should be rather worse than in other places; and so it was. They found themselves in a rich city, abounding in whatever they wanted; and therefore they considered it as a magazine, and began to furnish themselves immediately with broad-cloth, tartan, linen, shoes and stockings, to the amount of ten thousand pound sterling; so that, by this means, the Pretender in a manner new-clothed his army, which proved a great means of keeping them together;

ther; otherwise, in all probability, the greater part of them would have dispersed.

On the 3d of Jan. having finished their business at Glasgow, and gleaned up what they could, they marched to Kilsyth; the next day to Bannockburn; and on the 5th, having now the best part of their forces together, they summoned the castle and town of Sterling to surrender. General Blakeney answered, that he would defend the place to the last extremity, and that, as he had lived, he was determined to die, a man of honour. The town, which is indeed of no great strength, after some time spent in treaty, surrendered; and the rebels entered it upon the 8th, when, having again summoned the castle, to as little purpose as before, they took a final resolution of besieging it in form with what artillery they had.

The King's forces, under the command of Lieutenant General Hawley, and Major General Huske, proceeded from Edinburgh to the relief of the castle; part of the forces under Major General Huske were sent to dislodge the Earl of Kilmarnock from Falkirk, where he lay with most of the cavalry belonging to the rebel army. On the 13th, the forces appointed for this service began to move towards Linlithgow, which they entered in the evening, at the very instant the Earl of Kilmarnock was marching in on the side next Falkirk, with some of his people; but having early intelligence of the General's purpose and nearness, he retired, with some precipitation, to the main body of the rebel army before Stirling.

On the 16th, General Huske, with the forces under his command, took possession of Falkirk, and was followed thither, soon after, by General Hawley, and the rest of the army: who determined, as next day, to attack the rebels; but being informed, that the rebels were in motion towards him, and endeavoured

youred to gain some rising grounds near the Moor of Falkirk, he formed his army, and advanced in good order; the dragoons on the left, and the foot in two lines. As soon as they came within one hundred yards of the enemy, the dragoons were ordered to fall on sword in hand, and the two lines of infantry to advance. But, before they could put these orders in execution, the rebels made a very smart fire, which threw the dragoons into some disorder, and they the foot, who made only one irregular fire, Barrel's and Ligonier's battalions excepted; who being presently rallied by Brigadier Cholmodeley, were attacked afterwards by the rebels, whom they repulsed, and at length drove them quite out of the field.

In the mean time Major General Huske, with wonderful prudence and presence of mind, drew together and formed a body of foot in the rear of these two regiments; which the rebels seeing, did not venture to renew the attack. General Mor-daunt, taking advantage of this delay, rallied and formed the rest of the troops, in which the officers, who in general behaved well, assisted; which prevented their prosecuting their first advantage.

There were several unforeseen, and, indeed, inevitable accidents, that contributed greatly to, or rather might be said to have been the sole occasion of, the rebels gaining this advantage. In the first place, there was some difficulty and confusion in forming the King's troops, which was succeeded by another unlucky accident; some of the battalions fired without orders, which occasioned a great confusion among the dragoons. But the greatest misfortune of all was, that, just as the army began to move, there came on a violent storm of wind and rain, which hindered the men from seeing before them; and many of their firelocks were so wet, that it is thought scarce  
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a fifth part of them were of use: add to this, that they had not the benefit of their artillery; for the weather having been two days very wet, and there being a very steep hill to climb, they could not get up time enough to do any service in the action; and the commander of the train having quitted it, for which, afterwards, he was, as deservedly as disgracefully, broke, most of the people who belonged to the horses rode away with them; so that when the troops retired to their camp, they found it extremely hard to carry off their cannon to Linlithgow, to which the King's army retired, rather to avoid the inclemency of the weather, than in fear of the rebels.

The rebels returned to Stirling on the 18th in the afternoon; and again summoned the castle: but General Blakeney repeated what he had before told them, that he had been always looked upon as a man of honour, and they should find he would die so. Upon this they began to erect two new batteries, one upon Gawan-hill, within forty yards of the castle, and one upon Lady's-Hill, upon which they proposed to mount what battering cannon they had, which were but seven pieces, viz. two eighteen pounders, two sixteen pounders, and three twelve pounders; and, while this was doing, they continued to fire upon the castle with small arms, which did little or no mischief, though at the same time it exposed their men extremely, and they suffered by the fire of the castle very severely; which put them more and more out of humour with the siege; and what contributed to increase their uneasiness was the great want of provisions, which obliged them to send out parties on all sides, to carry off what meal they could find in any part of the country.

The greatest part of the army being returned into the neighbourhood of Falkirk, they sent away  
their



their prisoners to Down Castle on the 25th, except the officers; and the Hazard sloop, which was now re-fitted, was ordered to sail to France, to carry the news of this advantage, which they magnified extremely, as appeared by the accounts that were printed of it at Paris.

On the return of the King's army to Edinburgh, a very strict enquiry was made into the loss sustained by the late action, which appeared to be, officers excepted, very small.

It happened very luckily, that, as this action proved more fatal to the officers than to the private soldiers, it proved as fortunate to a great many others; for the rebels having sent most of the officers that were taken prisoners at Preston-Pans, to Glamis, Coupar, and Lesly, when they were drawing together their forces about Stirling, the loyal inhabitants of Dundee, and other places, formed a design of rescuing them, and conducting them back to Edinburgh, which they executed with great spirit and diligence; and they arrived at that city on the 19th, the very next day after the army returned thither from Linlithgow.

When the news of this battle reached London, it made it necessary, to provide for the immediate extinction of so dangerous a flame, by sending down a sufficient number of forces, not only to render the army in Scotland more formidable than before, but to increase its strength to such a degree, as to free the nation from any apprehensions of its consequences, in case the enemy should grow more numerous, or the French and Spaniards persist in their design of attempting an invasion for their support in any part of his Majesty's dominions. It was with this view, that a resolution was taken of embarking the Hessian troops in British pay, then in the neighbourhood of Antwerp, for Scotland; and it was also thought convenient, that to  
restore

restore the spirit of the soldiers, to extinguish all animosities, and encourage the well-affected in North Britain, his Royal Highness the Duke should immediately go down thither.

The troops seemed to be extremely mortified at the miscarriage at Falkirk, and shewed an earnest desire to repair it by marching again to attack the rebels; for which the necessary preparations were instantly made, and the army, in a very few days, was in every respect, in a better condition, and better provided than before. On the 30th in the morning, to the great surprize and joy of the army, his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland arrived at Edinburgh, after a journey amazingly expeditious, considering the rigour of the season. The sight of the Duke banished all remembrance of the late untoward accident, and the troops shewed uncommon ardour to be led, bad as the weather was, into the field again.

His Royal Highness retrieved the forces the very next day, and marched them in pursuit of the rebels. He quartered that night at Linlithgow with eight battallions; Brigadier Mordaunt, with six battallions more, was at Burrowstoouness; the dragoons lay in the adjacent villages; and Colonel Campbell, with the Argyleshire men, took post in the front of the army, towards the Avon. There was at that time a considerable body of the rebels at Falkirk, who immediately retired towards Torwood. The next day his Royal Highness made the necessary dispositions for prosecuting the march, when he received advice, that the rebels were actually repassing the Forth with all the diligence imaginable; which news was soon after put out of dispute by the noise they heard of two great reports like the blowing up of magazines; upon which Brigadier Mordaunt was detached with the Argyleshire

Argyleshire men, and the dragoons, to harrafs the rebels in their retreat.

The brigadier, with the troops under his command, arrived at Stirling late that evening, where they found the rebels had abandoned their camp, with all their artillery, and had blown up a great magazine they had of powder and ball in the church of St. Ninian; and that with so little care or discretion, that several of the country-people were buried in the ruins. They likewise left behind them all the wounded men they had made prisoners in the late action, and about twenty of their own sick men: but it was so late when the King's forces arrived, that it was judged needless to continue the pursuit.

On the 2d of February, about one in the afternoon, his Royal Highness entered Stirling, and was pleased to testify his entire satisfaction with respect to the gallant defence made by General Blakeney. In the mean time, the rebels were occupied in making all the dispatch in their power, that they might be entirely out of reach before Stirling Bridge could be repaired for the passage of the army.

Part of them took the road by Tay-bridge, towards the hills; the rest, consisting of Lord Lewis Gordon's men, the remains of the French, those commanded by Lord Ogilvie, and the few horse they had, got into Perth the very night that Brigadier Mordaunt arrived at Stirling; and though they had taken a great deal of pains in throwing up several works for the security of that place, yet they began to abandon it, and to continue their march northward the next morning. Lord John Drummond, with the remains of the Scots and Irish that came from France, made the best of their way towards Montrose, and, on the third of February, the town of Perth was totally evacuated. They left behind them there thirteen pieces of iron cannon,  
eight

eight and twelve pounders, nailed up; and threw a vast quantity of ammunition into the river, together with fourteen swivel guns that had been taken out of the Hazard sloop, and set at liberty the sailors that had been confined there from the time that vessel was taken; but they thought fit to carry Capt. Hill, who commanded her, along with them, and some few other prisoners of the better sort.

It is evident, that this retreat of theirs was made with the utmost hurry and precipitation; and yet it was barely made in time: for on the 4th, by six in the morning, the bridge of Stirling was repaired, so that the army passed over it; and the advanced guard, consisting of the Argyleshire Highlanders, and the dragoons, marched that night as far as Crief; but the foot were cantoned in and about Dumblain, where the Duke took up his quarters that evening, and the next day the advanced guards took possession of Perth. We may, without danger of incurring the suspicion of adulation, observe, that scarce any history can shew a more illustrious instance of the effects of a general's reputation than this before us; since, in the space of a single week, his Royal Highness quitted the court of the King his father, put himself at the head of the forces in Scotland, and saw the enemy flying with precipitation before him.

The rebels were very sensible, how much the news of this retreat of theirs, which had so much the resemblance of a flight, would alarm their friends both at home and abroad; and therefore they dispersed several papers to assign such reasons for it, as they judged might give it a fair appearance; alledging, that their men were so loaded with booty, that they were constrained to let them carry it home; that after so fatiguing a campaign, some repose was necessary; and that, when they had re-



freshed and recruited their forces, they would not fail to make a fresh irruption into the lowlands in the spring. But, whatever reasons they might pretend, the true motives of their conduct were these: They judged, that, by drawing the war into the Highlands, they would make it extremely burdensome and uneasy to the King's forces, obtain frequent opportunities of harrassing and surprising them, and have a fair chance for rendering them weary of following them through countries, where they thought it impossible for them to have magazines, and other requisites for an army of their force. In the next place, they persuaded themselves, that the removing the war into the Highlands, and the report they spread of the severities that would be inflicted by the King's troops, must keep their men together, which they now found a very difficult task: and would also contribute to increase their strength. They had, besides these, another reason; which was, the giving a fair opportunity to their friends the French, of attempting an invasion in the south; which they flattered themselves would afford such a diversion as would free them from all their difficulties. And to all this might be added, that they had formed a project of making themselves masters of the chain or line of fortifications, that ran along the north of Scotland, from fort William to Inverness; and thereby secure the country behind them, and, at the same time, afford means for the French and Spaniards to send them reinforcements and supplies, of which they had hitherto had large promises, though but slight and ineffectual performances.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, who penetrated all their views, took the most proper methods that could be contrived for the defeating them. He gave orders for the army to march by different roads (but in such bodies as prevented

prevented all danger of surprize) to Aberdeen, where he proposed to fix his head-quarters, to raise magazines, and to receive such succours and supplies, as from time to time might be required by sea, from the south. As the Hessian troops were now in Scotland, his Royal Highness took care to dispose of them, and some other bodies of English troops, at Perth, Dunkeld, the Castle of Blair, Castle of Menzies, and other places; by which he effectually secured the passage into the Lowlands, and put it out of the power of the rebels to return that way into the south. General Campbell, with the Argyleshire men, undertook the security of Fort William, a place at that time of infinite importance, as it secured another passage through the west of Scotland, by which the rebels might again have made their way into England. These precautions taken, his Royal Highness set out in person for Aberdeen, where he arrived on the 28th of February.

The rebels, in prosecution of their designs, made it their first care to become masters of Inverness, a town of pretty considerable trade on the east side of the Highlands, with a good port and a small fortress, sometimes called the Castle of Inverness, but more properly Fort George, to defend it. The Earl of Loudon was then there with a body of about fifteen hundred men, most of them hastily raised for the service of the government; with whom, upon the approach of the rebels to within a very small distance of the place, he marched out, in order to act offensively; but finding that impracticable, and that the enemy were much stronger than he expected, he judged it proper to retreat, which he did on the 20th of February, without the loss of a man, leaving two independent companies, under the command of Major Grant, in Fort George, with orders to defend it to the last extremity. But, it seems

seems, these orders were but indifferently obeyed; for the place was soon after surrendered to the rebels; upon which the Chevalier removed his quarters thither, having with him about four thousand men. This success, and the news of surprizing some parties of well-affected Highlanders, not far from the Castle of Blair, so much raised their spirits, that they were resolved to prosecute their original design of reducing the Chain; and accordingly they next attacked Fort Augustus, a very small place, and only important by its situation between Inverness and Fort William, in which there was a very small garrison, of no more than three companies of Guise's regiment, under the command of Major Wentworth; so that it was speedily reduced, and as speedily demolished, which was the same fate that Fort George had met with: a clear demonstration, that they did not think it necessary to have any garrison in that part of the country. But as they were still incommoded by the neighbourhood of the Earl of Loudon, who lay at their back, with only the Frith of Murray between them; the Duke of Perth, the Earl of Cromertie, and some of the rest of their chief commanders, resolved to attempt the surprizing of that Earl by the help of boats, which they drew together on their side of the water; and, taking the advantage of a fog, executed their scheme so effectually, that, falling upon the King's forces under the Earl's command and unexpectedly, they cut off some, made a few officers prisoners, and obliged Lord Loudon to retire with the rest out of Sutherland. But though these small advantages served to make a noise, and to keep up the spirits of their party, yet they did them little real service; and their money beginning to run short, and supplies both at home and abroad failing their expectations, caused great divisions and heart-burnings amongst them.

Mean

Mean time his Royal Highness the Duke, notwithstanding the rigour of the season, and badness of the roads, took care to distress the rebels as much as possible; for the very day after he joined the army, he detached the Earl of Ancram with an hundred dragoons, and Major Morris with three hundred foot, to the Castle of Corgarf, at the head of the river Don, forty miles from Aberdeen, and in the heart of the country then in possession of the rebels; wherein his Royal Highness had information of their having a considerable magazine of arms and amunition, which his Lordship had orders to seize, or destroy; which commission he executed very effectually; for the rebels retiring upon his approach, he became master of the place, and all that was in it; but, for want of horses to carry them off, was obliged to destroy most of the arms, and thirty barrels of gun-powder.

On the 16th of March, having intelligence that Roy Stuart, with about a thousand foot, and sixty hussars, was at Strathbogie, his Royal Highness ordered Major-General Bland to drive them from thence; and, at the same time, ordered Brigadier-general Mordaunt, with four battallions, and as many pieces of cannon, to march, and support the Major-general, if there should be occasion. On the 17th, the Major-general advanced to Strathbogie, and was almost within sight of the place before the rebels had any notice of his approach; which alarmed them to such a degree, that they quitted their post, and retired with great precipitation towards Keith. But this success was attended with some little check: for General Bland having detached a captain of Highlanders, with seventy of his men, and thirty of Kingston's horse, with orders to clear that place, and then rejoin the army, they, contrary to his directions, ventured to quarter there that night; which gave the rebels an opportunity



tunity of surprizing them, and cutting in pieces most of the Campbells, who were quartered in the church-yard; but the coronet, who commanded Kingston's horse, retired, with some of those under his command.

The rebels, being very well apprized of the great importance of Fort William (the taking of which would have made them masters of the whole extent of the country from east to west, and from sea to sea, and would, besides, have opened them a passage into Argyleshire, and the West of Scotland) resolved to leave nothing unattempted that might contribute to the conquest of this fortress, and therefore ordered Brigadier Stapleton, with a large body of their best men, most of them engineers, and as good a train as they could furnish, to attempt it: but, the place being defended by Captain Scot, an officer of courage, fidelity, and experience, they were obliged to raise the siege on the 3d of April, about a month after they had begun to move against it; which they did with great precipitation, bending their march to Inverness. Upon which, Capt. Scot detached a party of the garrison, who secured eight pieces of cannon, and seven mortars, which the enemy had left behind them.

They had before this received a very great disappointment, as follows:

We have already observed, that they were in great distress for money, and other necessaries, and waited impatiently for a supply from France; which they hoped, notwithstanding the miscarriage of so many vessels that had been sent them, would soon arrive on board the Hazard sloop; to which they had given the name of The Prince Charles Snow, and which they had intelligence was at sea, with a considerable quantity of gold on board, and a good number of experienced officers and engineers, who were very much wanted,

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On the 25th of March, this long looked for vessel arrived in Tongue-Bay, into which she was followed by his Majesty's ship the *Sheerness*, commanded by Capt. O'Brien, who immediately attacked her. In the engagement, the *Hazard* sloop had a great many men killed, and many more wounded; so that, not being able to maintain the fight, she ran ashore on the shallows, where the *Sheerness* could not follow her; and there she landed her men and money. The place on which she ran on shore (after being chased fifty-six leagues) was in the Lord Rea's country; and it happened there was then at his Lordship's house, his son, Capt. Mackay, Sir Henry Munro, Lord Charles Gordon, Capt. Macleod, and about eighty men of Lord Loudon's regiment, who had retired thither, when the rebels attacked them by boats, as has been before related.

These gentlemen, having animated the soldiers to attack, notwithstanding the superiority of numbers, those who landed from the *Prince Charles Snow*, obtained, after a short dispute, a complete victory, with little or no loss on their side. Besides five chests of money, and a considerable quantity of arms, they took an hundred and fifty-six officers, soldiers, and sailors, prisoners, with whom they embarked on board the *Sheerness* man of war, and sailed immediately for Aberdeen, together with another prize Capt. O'Brien had taken in the Orkneys. The money, besides one chest that was missing, and what had been taken out of another that was broken, amounted to twelve thousand five hundred guineas; and amongst the prisoners there were forty experienced officers, who had been long either in the French or Spanish service.

At the same time that the rebels employed so considerable a part of their forces in attacking Fort William, they sent another body, under the command

mand of Lord George Murray, to make a little attempt upon the Castle of Blair, the principal seat of his Grace the Duke of Athol, but a place of no great strength, and in which there was only a small garrison, under the command of Sir Andrew Agnew; which siege, or rather blockade, they raised with the same hurry and precipitation, on the approach of the Earl of Crawford, as they did that of Fort William, upon the very same day, and from the same motives.

His Royal Highness, having before made the necessary dispositions, marched from Aberdeen on the 8th of April 1746, in order to find out the rebels; who had now united all their forces, being resolved to make a stand at Inverness. He encamped on the 11th at Cullen, where my Lord Albemarle joined him; and the whole army the next day marched to Spey, and passed it with no other loss than of one dragoon and four women, who were drowned through hurry and indiscretion. Major-general Huske was detached in the morning with fifteen companies of grenadiers, the loyal Highlanders, and all the cavalry, and two pieces of cannon; and his Royal Highness went with them himself.

On their first appearance, the rebels retired from the side of the Spey towards Elgin; whereupon the Duke of Kingston's horse immediately forded over, sustained by the grenadiers and the highlanders; but the rebels were all got out of their reach before they could pass. The foot waded over as fast as they arrived; and though the water came up to their middles, they went on with great cheerfulness. The rebels on the other side of the Spey appeared to be between two and three thousand; but they did not make any opposition, either while the King's troops were passing, or when part of them had passed, and were on the other side of the river; for which conduct of theirs it seems very difficult

difficult to assign any reason, unless it were that their officers being sensible that the artillery of the King's troops would secure their passage, were unwilling to run the risque of dispiriting their men by an unsuccessful attempt of that kind; and therefore chose not to dispute the passage of the Spey; hoping rather to deceive their men into an opinion, that they should be well enough able to deal with them when they had passed.

The King's army marched on to Elgin and Forres, and from thence to Nairn, where they halted on the 15th, and where the rebels thought to have surprized them; but the vigilance and strict discipline his Royal Highness maintained, absolutely disappointed them; notwithstanding which, they set fire to, and destroyed Fort Augustus, called in all their parties, and prepared for a general engagement, which followed the next day, the 16th, when the rebels were totally defeated near Culloden-house: upwards of two thousand of them being killed in the battle and pursuit.

The French auxiliaries all surrendered prisoners of war; amongst whom were Brigadier Stapleton, the Marquis de Guilles, whom the Highlanders called the French Ambassador, Lord Lewis Drummond, and about forty-two more. The loss on the side of the King's army was very inconsiderable; the only persons of note killed, were Lord Robert Kerr, Capt. in Barrel's regiment, Capt. Croiset of Price's, Capt. John Campbell, of Loudon's, and Capt. Colin Campbell of the Militia; besides these, fifty private men killed, and two hundred and fifty men wounded.

The number of all the persons taken in this signal victory were two hundred and twenty-two French, and two hundred and twenty-six rebels; all their artillery and amunition, with other mili-



tary stores, and twelve colours likewise fell into the hands of the victors. The Earl of Kilmarnock was taken in the action; Lord Balmerino, at first reported to be killed, was taken soon after; and four ladies, that had been very active in the rebellion, were likewise seized at Inverness, viz. Lady Ogilvie, Lady Kinloch, Lady Gordon, and Lady Mackintosh.

Immediately after the battle, Brigadier Mor-daunt was detached with the volunteers, to the number of nine hundred, into the Frasers country, in order to reduce all who should be found in arms there; and with the like view other detachments were made into other disaffected parts of the country; which put it entirely out of the power of the rebels ever to assemble after in any body, capable of disturbing the peace of the country, being reduced to the necessity of separating into small parties, in order to shift the better for themselves.—About the same time that the whole forces of the rebels were thus vanquished at the battle of Cul-loden, the Earl of Cromertie, his eldest son, a great many officers of distinction, and about an hundred and fifty private men, were surprized in the north, by a very small party of his Majesty's loyal subjects, who sent them prisoners on board his Majesty's ship the Hound, Capt. Dove, from Sutherland to Inverness.

Thus the flame of the rebellion, which, after being smothered for some time in Scotland, broke out at last with such force, as to spread itself into England, and not without reason alarmed the inhabitants even of the metropolis, was in a short space totally extinguished by him who gave the first check to its force, and who perhaps alone was capable of performing this service to his country, to his father, and to his King.

His

His Royal Highness, as he well deserved, had the thanks of both houses of parliament sent him by their respective speakers ; to which he returned the most obliging answers. The two houses also addressed his Majesty, signifying their readiness to give his Royal Highness such distinguished marks of public gratitude as should be most agreeable to his Majesty ; who was graciously pleased to recommend to them the settling of an additional revenue upon his Royal Son. And accordingly an additional revenue of twenty-five thousand pounds per annum was settled upon him, making forty thousand pounds per annum ; his Royal Highness having before but fifteen thousand pounds per annum.

While these grateful measures were pursuing above, his Royal Highness the Duke took all the necessary precautions for effectually scattering the very embers of the late fire, that they might not be raked together again, or, by the addition of any fresh fuel, blown up into a new flame. With this view he sent detachments of well-affected Highlanders and regular troops, into the wildest countries belonging to the clans that had been in arms, where such as submitted were received to mercy, and such as stood out had their countries burnt ; and at the same time their cattle were driven away, that they might be the less able to subsist, and those cattle sold for the benefit of the soldiers in the King's army. These measures had very great consequences ; the burning of Lord Lovat's and Cameron of Lochiel's houses had a great effect, and struck much terror ; so that in a very short space of time there were scarce any parties of rebels to be heard of, and most of their chiefs surrendered, were taken, or found means to escape out of the island.

Among the first were the Marquis of Tullibardin, who stiled himself Duke of Athol, who died afterwards

afterwards a prisoner in the tower; Mr. William Murray, a near relation of the Earl of Dunmore's, who was pardoned; the Earl of Kelly, and the Master of Lovat. As for Lord Lovat, his father, Mr. Murray of Broughton, and many more, they were taken at different times; but the Duke of Perth, Lord John Drummond his brother, Lord Elcho, eldest son to the Earl of Wemyss, and several of their associates, made their escapes by sea in two French privateers, that were sent to carry off those who had been doing the business of France at the expence of their honours and fortunes. Lord Pittligo, and Lord Lewis Gordon, retired the same way; and Lord Ogilvie, with thirteen or fourteen more, shipped themselves in a small vessel for Norway, where, as soon as they arrived, they were seized by orders from the late King of Denmark, but were afterwards released, retired into Sweden, and found means to get from thence into France. Lord George Murray also made his escape; but, whither or in what manner we are not able to say.

As for the young Pretender himself, he found it much more difficult to withdraw than any of his adherents; which was the reason that he remained long behind them: and, as it may be expected that a more particular account should be given of his adventures, we shall endeavour it without any mixture of those romantic tales that have been published on that subject.

He was in the body of reserve at the battle of Culloden, where he is said to have an horse shot under him; but while the French were treating with the King's troops, in order to be received prisoners of war, he mounted a fresh horse, and made his escape. That very evening, being the 16th of April, he retired to the house of a factor of Lord Lovat's,

Lovat's, about ten miles from Inverness; where, meeting with that lord, he staid supper: after supper was over, he set out for Fort Augustus, and pursued his journey the next day to Invergarry, where he proposed to have dined, but finding no victuals, he set a boy to fishing, who caught two salmon, on which he made an hearty meal, and continued waiting there for some of his troops, who had promised to rendezvous at that place; but, being disappointed, he resolved to proceed to Locharcige: he arrived on the 18th at two in the morning, where he went to sleep, which he had not done for five days and nights: he remained there till five o'clock in the afternoon, in hopes of obtaining some intelligence; but, gaining none, he set out from thence on foot, and travelled to the Glen of Morar, where he arrived the 19th at four in the morning.

He set out about noon the same day for Arra-shaig, whence he arrived about four in the afternoon. He remained there about seven days, waiting for Capt. O'Neil, who joined him on the 27th, and informed him, that there were no hopes of drawing his troops together again in a body; upon which he resolved to go to Stornway, in order to hire a ship to go to France: the person employed for this service was one Donald M'Leod, who had an interest there. On the 28th he went on board an eight-oared boat, in company with Sullivan and O'Neil, ordering the people who belonged to the boat to make the best haste they could to Stornway.

The night proving very tempestuous they all begged of him to go back; which he would not do, but, to keep up the spirits of the people, he sung them an Highland song; but the weather growing worse, on the 29th, about seven in the morning,



morning, they were driven on shore on a point of land called Rushness, in the Island of Benbecula, where, when they got on shore, the Pretender helped to make a fire to warm the crew, who were almost starved to death with cold. On the 30th, at six in the evening, they set sail for Stornway; but, meeting with another storm, were obliged to put into the Island of Scalp in the Harries, where they all went on shore to a farmer's house, passing for merchants that were shipwrecked in their voyage to the Orkneys; the Pretender and Sullivan going by the name of Sinclair, the latter passing for the father, and the former for the son. They thought proper to send from thence to Donald M'Leod at Stornway, with instructions to freight a ship for the Orkneys. On the 3d of May they received a message from him, that a ship was ready.

On the 4th they set out on foot for that place, where they arrived on the 5th about noon; and, meeting with Donald M'Leod, they found that he had got into company, where growing drunk, he told a friend of his for whom he had hired the ship: upon which there were two hundred people in arms at Stornway, upon a report, that the Pretender was landed with five hundred men, and was coming to burn the town: so that they were obliged to lay all night upon the moor, with no other refreshment than biscuit and brandy. On the 6th they resolved to go in the eight-oared boat to the Orkneys; but the crew refused to venture, so that they were obliged to steer south along the coast side, where they met with two English ships, and this compelled them to put into a desert island, where they remained till the 10th, without any provision but some salt fish they found upon the island.

About

About ten in the morning on that day they embarked for the Harries, and at break of day on the 11th they were chased by an English ship, but made their escape among the rocks; about four in the afternoon they arrived at the Island of Benbecula, where they staid till the 14th, and then set out for the Mountain of Currada in South Uist, where they staid till the militia of the Isle of Sky came to the Island of Irasky; and then sailed for the Island of Ula, where they remained three nights, till, having intelligence that the militia were coming towards Benbecula, they immediately got into the boat and sailed for Lochbusdale; but being met by some ships of war, they were obliged to return to Lochagnart, where they remained all day, and at night sailed for Lochbusdale, where they arrived, and staid eight days on a rock, making a tent of the sail of the boat. They found themselves there in a most dreadful situation; for, having intelligence that Capt. Scot had landed at Kilbride, the company was obliged to separate, and the Pretender and O'Neil went to the mountains, where they remained all night, and soon after were informed, that General Campbell was at Bernary; so that now they had forces very near on both sides of them, and were absolutely at a loss which way to move.

In their road they met with a young lady, one Miss M'Donald, to whom Capt. O'Neil proposed assisting the Pretender to make his escape, which at first she refused; but upon his offering to put on woman's clothes, she consented, and desired them to go to the Mountain of Currada till she sent for them, where they accordingly staid two days; but hearing nothing from the young lady, the Pretender concluded that she would not keep her word, and therefore resolved to send Capt. O'Neil

to General Campbell, to let him know he was willing to surrender to him: but about five in the evening a message came from the young lady, desiring them to meet her at Rushness: being afraid to pass by the ford because of the militia, they luckily found a boat which carried them to the other side of Ula, where they remained part of the day, afraid of being seen by the country-people. In the evening they set out for Rushness, and arrived there at twelve at night; but not finding the young lady, and being alarmed by a boat full of militia, they were obliged to retire two miles back, where the Pretender remained on a moor till O'Neil went to the young lady, and prevailed upon her to come to the place appointed at nightfall of the next day.

About an hour after, they had an account of General Campbell's arrival at Benbecula; which obliged them to remove to another part of the island, where, as the day broke, they discovered four sail close on the shore, making directly up to the place where they were, so that there was nothing left for them to do but to throw themselves among the heath. When the wherries were gone, they resolved to go to Clanronald's house; but when they were within a mile of it, they heard General Campbell was there, which forced them to retreat again; and soon after O'Neil was taken.

There were no distinct accounts of what became of the Pretender after this, for the remainder of that month, and the greatest part of the next, except that he shifted about from place to place in woman's clothes, and on the 28th of June went with the lady whom he attended in a small boat from South Uist to the Isle of Sky; there he resumed his own drets, and was carried by one Mac-kinnon in a boat to Raga, from whence he returned

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in a boat to Sky, and after some stay there, went back to the continent. About the middle of July the government had certain intelligence of his crossing the hill of Morar in Lochabar, proceeding from thence to Badenoch; and on the 23d of July he was at Arisaig, and continued wandering about that country, in great distress, during all the month of August.

On the 6th of September, two French privateers came upon the coast of Moidart, where the Pretender first landed, and made strict enquiry after him. Several of the Camerons, and some of the Macdonalds, repaired to them, and were employed to search for the Pretender; but it was the 17th before he came down to them, and was then dressed in a short coat of black freize, with a plaid over it. He was in a bad state of health, and seemed to be brought very low by the fatigues he had gone through. He embarked the next day about noon, attended by the following persons; Macpherson of Clunie, with others of his clan, Cameron of Lochiel, Dr. Cameron his brother, Lodowick Cameron of Tor-castle, Allan Cameron, and Macdonald of Lochgary, with many others whose names were not known, Macdonald of Barisdale, and his son, went on board the ships before his arrival.

The ships in which they embarked were the Happy privateer of thirty guns and three hundred men, and the Prince of Conti of twenty guns and two hundred and forty men, fitted out from St. Malo's, by some of his adherents. They were obliged to sail round the land's end, where they were chased by two English men of war; but escaped by the thickness of the weather, and on the 29th arrived in a creek three leagues to the west of Morlaix, where he presently went ashore.

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He was so extremely fatigued, and in so bad a state of health, that he rested a week before he went to Fontainebleau, where the French court then was, and where (if their Gazettes deserve any credit) he met with a very kind reception, he had a great sum of money given him, a large pension settled upon him, and mighty promises made him; but all this was only to serve the present turn, and to express the resentment of the French court for our attempt upon Port L'Orient. For the situation of things changing, the disposition of the French court changed likewise; his pension was forgot, the complaints he made little regarded, and at last he was plainly given to understand, that the best thing himself and his brother could do, was to retire to Avignon; which they accordingly did.

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